

# TROUT FISHING IN KULU



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# *Fishing Tackle.*

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L A H O R E

# TROUT FISHING IN KULU

WITH A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF  
RIVERS, ROUTES AND ACCOMMO-  
DATION AVAILABLE FOR VISITORS

SECOND EDITION

LAHORE:  
THE CIVIL AND MILITARY GAZETTE, LTD.

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1941



## PREFACE TO FIRST EDITION

As a holiday resort the Kulu Valley is not nearly so well known as other hill-stations in the Punjab or as Kashmir. Only within the past few years has it become accessible to motorists. Previous to the opening of the road for motor traffic the journey involved several stages of walking or riding, and the employment of mules or coolies for the transportation of baggage. Likewise, as a trout fishing resort, the Beas and its tributaries have had little publicity. The sport is not so well organized and protected as in Kashmir—nor is it so expensive. Social amenities and modern conveniences are practically non-existent and, apart from dâk bungalows and official rest-houses, accommodation is extremely limited.

In spite of these disadvantages Kulu possesses an almost irresistible attraction for those who have experienced its tranquil environment and, year after year, a few familiar faces may be seen. The valley has a charm of its own which cannot easily be matched in other parts of the Himalaya; it still retains its atmosphere of unruffled peace and its loveliness is as yet unspoilt by commercial exploitation.

In addition to the writer's personal knowledge of conditions obtaining in the Kulu Sub-Division—acquired over a series of visits during the past fifteen years—official gazetteers and reports of the Punjab Fisheries Department have been freely drawn upon in the compilation of this pamphlet. The writer does not pretend to pose as an authority on trout fishing and the opinions of anglers who have frequently fished the rivers of Kulu may not entirely agree with what has been written on the subject. But the object will have been attained if intending visitors to the valley find some useful information in the following pages.

For further information on sport in the Kulu sub-division, the following books are recommended:

\*"Sportsman's Manual for Kulu, Lahoul and Spiti," by the late Colonel Tyacke. Published by Thacker, Spink & Co., Calcutta.

"Shikar Notes with Shikar Map," showing the distribution of big game in Kulu and Lahoul, by Mr. R. C. Henson, Survey of India. Obtainable from the *Civil and Military Gazette, Ltd., Lahore.*

The writer's acknowledgments are due to Major Mackenzie, R.A.M.C., Mr. V. Shibayev of the Himalayan Research Institute, Sirdar Sirtaj Singh, Lahore, and Mr. T. E. McCullagh, I.S.O., Katrain, for the photographs reproduced in this pamphlet.

1934

T.T.

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\*The title of the late Col. Tyacke's "Sportsman's Manual for Kulu, Lahoul and Spiti" has been changed to "In Quest of Game."

## TROUT FISHING IN KULU

### FIRST LIST OF CORRECTIONS TO 2ND EDITION

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In the Preface to the second edition of "Trout Fishing in Kulu," mention was made of the deterioration of fishing on some rivers. Unfortunately this decline persisted and sport on the Beas and its tributaries in upper Kulu during the 1943 season was definitely disappointing. An official inquiry into the causes of this deterioration was held during the year and various reforms in regard to breeding and stocking have now been instituted. The fishing season has been curtailed by a month and bottom fishing on reserved waters entirely prohibited.

*Chapter II—Page 6.*—Paragraph 2, third line. For 105 miles read 93.

*Chapter II—Page 6.*—Paragraph 2, Two-way motor traffic now extends to Jogindernagar, 15 miles beyond Baijnath.

*Chapter II—Page 13.*—Travellers to Kulu *via* the Kangra Valley Railway now detrain at Nagrota, the new rail-head, about 7-30 a.m. and make connection with the mail lorry (or station-wagon taxi under special arrangement) which reaches Kulu (Sultanpur) about 6-30 p.m.

*Chapter II—Page 14.*—Last paragraph. Rate for pack animals has now been considerably increased.

*Chapter VI—Page 38.*—Worm fishing. Bottom fishing with worm is now prohibited on reserved water, but can still be practised outside the reserve.

*Chapter VII—Page 43.*—Bottom fishing in the reserved area is now prohibited throughout the season.

*Appendix C.—Schedule A.*—Page 65.—The rates shown in this table have now been increased by 100%.

*Appendix D.—Page 67.*—Figure 4 (Rule No.) should be inserted at the beginning of the paragraph commencing "It shall be a condition" (after the Note ending with the words "to kill six trout per day").

Under the same Rule delete items No. (5) Artificial Worm, and (6) Natural Worm.

Also, under the same Rule, the words "except between the 1st of June and the 15th September" should be deleted.

*Appendix D.—Page 68.*—Rule 5. For the words "between the 1st day of November and the 1st day of March, both days inclusive" the words "between the 10th day of October and the 9th day of March, both days inclusive" should be substituted.

*Advertisement—Mayflower Hotel—Facing map.*—Delete "Terms Rupees Six per day."

T. T.

## PREFACE TO SECOND EDITION

The first edition of this little book on "Trout Fishing in Kulu" was printed and published in 1934 and has, I trust, attained its original object of providing some useful information, not only in regard to trout fishing in the district, but on other matters of general interest to visitors.

During the intervening years there have been changes, but none sufficiently drastic to disturb the leisurely charm of this beautiful Valley. As a holiday resort Kulu is becoming more popular and the number of visitors is increasing year by year. To meet the growing demand further accommodation has had to be provided at the main residential centres, while additional amenities like tennis, golf and swimming have gradually come into existence, though not yet on a scale comparable with other Himalayan playgrounds.

Trout fishing on some of the rivers has, in recent years, deteriorated to a certain extent, but it still remains the principal attraction. The Fisheries Department is striving hard to eradicate the cause of this deterioration and to restore all rivers and streams to their condition when fishing was at its best. Rules and license fees have undergone alteration, but general conditions vary little from those originally prescribed and, despite the slight increase in license fees, trout fishing in this Valley is still an alluring and inexpensive sport.

Several new illustrations have been introduced into this volume and the writer's acknowledgments are due to Mrs. Farrington-Evans, Jodhpur and Mr. P. Davis, Lahore (cover); Mr. Perkins, Calcutta; Mrs. Deeks and Mr. C. Woollen, Lahore; L.A.C.'s Brown and Roskrow of the R.A.F.; Mr. Vinaik-Katya-yen, Kulu.

*September 14th, 1941.*

T. TYSON.

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DUNGRI TEMPLE



The Dusehra Fair, Sultanpur.

## CHAPTER I

### KULU—THE VALLEY OF THE GODS

Kulu is a sub-division of the Kangra District of the Punjab. It is an outlying tract east of Kangra, separated from it by a range of mountains over which the only direct routes are by way of high passes. The motor road—an indirect route from Kangra to Kulu—runs through Mandi State territory. The boundaries of Kulu are—north, Zangskar (Ladakh); south, the river Sutlej; east, Rupshu and Tibet; west, Suket, Mandi, Bangahal and Chamba.

The whole sub-division includes Kulu, Seraj, Lahoul and Spiti, and measures over 6,600 square miles, but Kulu proper comprises only about 679 square miles. This latter tract is divided into three divisions or, to use the local name, *Waziris*: Parol (497 square miles) extends from the Lahoul boundary to the Phojal Nala on the west and the Parbatti river on the east; Lag Sari (93 square miles) extends from the Phojal to the Sarbarri; Lag Maharajah (89 square miles) from the Sarbarri to the Bajaura Gad.

Kulu was one of the oldest principalities of the Punjab hills and is supposed to have been founded not later than the second century of the Christian era. The name "Kulu" has been identified with Kulata, the first trace of which was found

on a coin bearing the name of one of the early Rajas and assigned, on palæographical grounds, to the above period.

The average elevation of the cultivated and inhabited parts of Kulu Valley is about 5,000 feet above sea-level and the highest villages are not more than 9,000 feet. At the lower end of the valley near Bajaura, where the Mandi road enters Kulu territory, the elevation is 3,600 feet. From Bajaura, along the main road, it gradually increases, and at Manali, the terminus of the motor road, it is 6,000 feet. Beyond Manali a mule road proceeds over the Rohtang Pass (13,500 feet) into Lahoul, through the latter country and over the Baralacha Pass (16,200 feet) into Ladakh, and from thence to Leh and Central Asia.

In addition to the rugged grandeur of the lofty mountains which surround it, the Kulu Valley provides a wonderful and fascinating variety of scenery throughout the four seasons of the year. On the lower slopes the pink and white blossoms of flowering trees and plants stand out in relief against the fresh green foliage of early spring. As the season advances innumerable little patches of cultivated ground—rising in terraces on the hillsides—gradually change colour from light-green to golden brown, as the wheat, with which they are planted, grows and ripens. Later, the vivid green of the young rice plant and the red bloom of the amaranth afford a striking contrast in the colour scheme. Immediately after the harvesting of maize in late September, when the corn cobs are laid out to ripen, the roofs of the tiny homesteads present a conspicuous blaze of pure gold, and form a striking feature of the Kulu landscape at this period of the year. The eye revels in the softness and infinite variety of shades and tints, as each, in its turn, provides a marvellous panorama of nature in its most benignant mood. In the winter the fields are bare and grass on the hillsides is dry and brown—or black, in patches, where it has been fired—but on the higher slopes there is still the perpetual green of pine and cedar and, above all vegetation, the pure white of snow-capped ridges and peaks.

The climate of Kulu is as delightful as its scenery, especially in spring and in autumn. In the lower parts of the subdivision it can be fairly warm during the summer, but the heat is mitigated to a great extent by cool breezes that daily blow





*Deotas* at the big fair during Dusehra week.

up the valley. Visitors who can select their habitation need fear no discomfort at any season of the year except that tent life, during the monsoon, may not be quite so comfortable as residence in a more permanent abode.

The temperature varies considerably in different parts of the sub-division and in accordance with elevation. Over an average of 21 years the *mean* temperature at Sultanpur, one of the hottest places in Kulu, was about 41 degrees in January and February and about 79 degrees in July and August. The annual rainfall is less generally than in most other hill-stations of the province. At Naggar (5,780 feet) 27 years' average was 49.40 inches; at Sultanpur (4,000 feet) 42 years' average was 39.74 inches; and at Banjar, Seraj (5,000 feet) 40 years' average was 40.29 inches. The rainfall is greater at higher elevations and, like the temperature, varies considerably in different localities.

The main river running through the Kulu Valley is the Beas. Its course is southwards towards Larji, after which it turns west. It has a number of tributaries on either bank in most of which, as well as in the main river, good trout fishing can be obtained.

Both big and small game shooting are available during appropriate seasons of the year. The former includes brown and black bear, leopard and snow leopard, ibex, *baral*, *tahr*,

*sarao*, *gural* and barking deer. The latter, pheasant (*monal*, *koklas*, *kalij*, *tragopan* and *chir*), several varieties of partridge (*chikor* are plentiful), wild duck, woodcock, snipe and pigeon (blue rock, wood and snow-pigeon). Snow pheasant and snow partridge are occasionally shot during the winter when they descend to the lower slopes. Abridged shooting regulations are shown in Appendix E.

The sub-division affords an extensive variety of mountain peaks to anyone keen on mountaineering. Some of the chief heights at the northern end of the Beas Valley and in Lahoul have been climbed by the *late* Hon. C. G. Bruce. Records of his expedition in this corner of the Himalaya are contained in his book "Kulu and Lahoul." More recently some of the peaks at the head of the Malana Glen and Solang Nala have been attempted and have provided fairly strenuous tests in mountaineering, but a rumour to the effect that Deo-Tibba (20,407 feet) was climbed in the summer of 1939 does not appear to have received definite confirmation.

Kulu is well named "The Valley of the Gods." The principal gods (*deotas*) are Raghunathji, imported into Kulu by Thakur Raghunathji about 1650 A.D.; *Devi* Hirma or Harimba, an aboriginal deity; *Deota* Jamlu, rather hostile to Raghunathji; and *Devi* Phungni who rules in the Sarbarri Valley. The indigenous inhabitants of Kulu profess to be Hindus, but the religion of the majority is really an off-shoot of Hinduism. Their affections are mainly concentrated on their local *deotas*. Every little village has its own *deota* or godling to which the inhabitants look for help in time of trouble or want, and nearly every hamlet has at least one fair during the year at which the *deota* is worshipped. The *deota* can, if necessary, be invoked on other than these special occasions, but to secure this privilege it is necessary to feast its attendants.

Once a year, at Dusehra, there is a big gathering of Kulu and Seraj *deotas* at Sultanpur in honour of Raghunathji. This festival carries on for nearly a week and for two or three days before it opens all roads leading to Sultanpur are thronged with gaily dressed men, women and children, accompanying their village god to the big fair. The followers of each particular *deota* make as brave a show as possible and as each *deota* has

its own band of musicians, provided with drums, pipes, cymbals and trumpets, the noise, as they converge on Kulu (Sultanpur), can be better imagined than described. Years ago this festival was a purely local affair with perhaps a sprinkling of visitors. *Puttoo*, blankets, shawls and other home-made articles of real value were freely bought and sold. Traders from beyond the Passes on their way towards the big markets of Amritsar and Hoshiarpur used to time their journeys to coincide with the fair in Kulu, and the displays of *numdahs*, carpets, *ghillims* and other wares from Central Asia, added to the fascination of the scene. The local element is now, to a great extent, being ousted and replaced by vendors from the plains selling old clothes, canvas shoes and miscellaneous collections of cheap and trashy articles and, as a spectacle peculiar to the district, it is gradually losing its original charm and attraction. Credit must, however, be given to several Departments of the Punjab Government for the effective exhibitions of departmental activities, in their efforts to revive and assist the local weaving industry, bee farming, poultry farming and agriculture generally.



Band accompanying a *deota*.



Bridges at Baijnath

## CHAPTER II

### ROUTES TO KULU

The main route from the plains to Kulu is *via* Pathankot, Kangra Valley and Mandi State. The road is quite good as far as Ghatta (3 miles beyond Baijnath), tar macadam all the way. Between Ghatta and Mandi City it is now under reconstruction and should soon be as good as the Pathankot-Baijnath section. But it is typical hill road, with numerous twists and sharp bends, and careful driving is necessary.

From Pathankot, at the foot of the hills, to Baijnath, 82 miles away, two-way motor traffic is allowed. Between Baijnath and Kulu (Sultanpur), 105 miles, one-way traffic only is permitted. A list of one-way traffic timings can be obtained from the Deputy Commissioner, Kangra, at Dharmsala. The timings may also be ascertained from the Baijnath offices of the motor-lorry transport services which operate through Mandi State.

Circumstances permitting, one's own car is the most comfortable and convenient method of travelling to Kulu. If sufficient accommodation is not available in the car, servants, with extra luggage, can be sent by motor-lorry from Pathankot. Anglers, especially, will appreciate the use of a car in Kulu for travelling to and from their favourite fishing waters.

The owner-driver or chauffeur, with no previous experience of the road to Kulu, may be inclined to chafe at speed restrictions; but they are necessary and it might be reiterated that careful driving is essential. Timings for one-way traffic stages are fairly liberal and, beyond a longer halt at the crossing stations, nothing is to be gained by speeding. Despite traffic regulations it is not unusual to meet a belated lorry or car travelling against prescribed timings in the opposite direction. When this happens on narrow sections of the road, one of the vehicles may have to reverse some considerable distance before a safe crossing place can be reached. Above all, sound the horn when approaching blind corners and take them slowly. There is a lot of pack-animal traffic in Mandi State, especially in the vicinity of the salt mines at Guma and Drang; also, at certain seasons of the year, huge flocks of sheep and goats on their way to or from the summer pasture grounds in Lahoul. Frequent stoppages and slowing down on account of such obstructions may be very irritating to the impatient motorist, but must be much more annoying to the drivers of startled pack animals when they shed their burdens on the road, or to the owners of sheep and goats to see their flock scattered in all directions. Until orders are issued to the contrary, this slow-going traffic has as much right to the road as faster moving motor vehicles.

From the foot of the hills below Nurpur the motor road to Kulu provides a variety of scenery and features of historical interest unequalled by any other hill road in the Province. A brief description of the more important features may not be out of place in this chapter.

Nurpur, originally called "Dhameri" and renamed "Nurpur" in honour of the Emperor Nur-ud-Din Jahangir, is the first town *en route*. Its historic fort, visible from the road, was built by Raja Basu and occupies a commanding position overlooking the plains. It is now in ruins.

The rich cultivation and comfortable-looking homesteads of the Kangra Valley, nestling at the foot of the hills, make pictures of gentle loveliness. In the near distance the lower slopes of the Daula Dhar range, covered with oak and pine; beyond and above them, majestic snow-capped mountains

standing out in bold relief against the skyline. The main road does not pass through the ancient town of Kangra; it branches off to the left three miles before the town is reached. Dharm-sala, the official headquarters of the Kangra District, is also eight miles distant from the main road and at a higher elevation.

Surrounding Palampur and Baijnath are numerous tea gardens—recent revivals of a big industry ruined by the earthquake in 1905 when scarcely a house was left standing. If a halt is made at Baijnath, the old temple, built in 1204 A.D., about a hundred yards from the road and close to the Dāk Bungalow, is well worth a visit. It is one of the few buildings in this locality that survived the big earthquake.

A three-mile climb is commenced at Baijnath and on the crest of the hill, at Ghatta, the road enters Mandi State territory. At Jogindernagar, the next town of any size, is located the generating station of the Punjab Government Hydro-Electric Scheme. The energy is derived from the Uhl River in Mandi State which, at the intake, is about 6,000 feet above sea level. The water is led by means of a pressure tunnel, three miles long, through a spur of the Daula Dhar range to the tunnel exit from where it drops about 1,800 feet to drive the generating plant at Jogindernagar. A good view of the large penstock pipes through which the water is conducted down the hill and of the haulage-way on which most of the material for the construction of the tunnel was carried up the side of a steep mountain, can be had on the left of the road above Jogindernagar as the motorist travels towards Kulu.

From Jogindernagar, through Haripur and Guma, the road goes up and up till Ghatasni, the highest point (nearly 6,000 feet) on the road to Kulu, is reached. From Ghatasni, a motor road up to Jhatingri, a summer residence of H. H. The Maharaja of Mandi, has recently been constructed. This road is also the taking-off place for a trek into Kulu by the Bhabu Pass route. From the Ghatasni ridge a long winding descent, passing Urla and Drang, terminates at the Victoria Suspension Bridge crossing the river into Mandi City. At this bridge a tax of one rupee each motor car and one pice per passenger in motor lorries is levied.



*Rath of Raghunathji.*

The present town of Mandi, on the left bank of the Beas, was founded about 1527 A.D. Prior to this the capital of the State was on the opposite bank. The old town is now of very little importance. The approach to the new town is interesting and the temples and rock carvings on the edge of the river lend an added charm to the natural surroundings. The road from the bridge to the Chauhta Bazaar is rather narrow. Beyond the bazaar is the old Damdama Palace, erected about 1625 A.D. Part of this building is now used for State offices. In front of the old palace is the Seri tank which has now been entirely renovated and redesigned. In the centre of the tank a beautiful temple-like edifice, in typical Mandi architecture, surmounted by a clock tower, has been constructed and is a great improvement on the original plain stone pillar and commonplace lamp. Historical legend in connection with this tank and pillar is briefly to the effect that beneath the pillar was supposed to lie the head of a Rana of Bangahal, a near-by state, who was murdered when on a visit to Mandi and, to appease his spirit, the lamp is lighted every evening. After leaving the square the road to Kulu turns left across a stone bridge which spans the Suketi, a tributary of the Beas. Near the bridge, on a plot of ground on the left bank of the Suketi, are the monumental pillars (locally known as *Barselas*) of the Mandi Rajas and their families. The inscriptions on the

pillars record the name of each Raja, the date of his death, and the number of queens, concubines and slave girls who were burnt with him. Beyond the Suketi bridge, on a slight elevation, is the recently renovated Mandi dâk bungalow, a popular and comfortable halting place.

Twelve miles beyond Mandi town, at Pandoh, the road again crosses the Beas by a suspension bridge and then enters the narrowest section of the Mandi-Larji gorge where, in places, the road is cut through solid rock. Except for a few hours in the middle of the day very little sunshine penetrates the deeper parts of this gorge which is flanked on both sides by towering cliffs. At certain seasons this stage of the journey can be uncomfortably cold. Aut, one of the usual crossing stations, about 12 miles beyond Pandoh, is a cheerless place. A cold penetrating breeze is frequently encountered and, if the halt is for any lengthy period, a warm wrap or overcoat will be appreciated. Beyond Aut the valley opens out and the scenery on both banks of the river assumes a less rugged aspect. Aut to Bajaura, the first village in Kulu territory, is nine miles and from Bajaura, through Bhuntar, to Sultanpur, another nine miles. There are several rather steep ascents in this 18-mile section, but the road is usually in good condition.

Sultanpur (generally referred to as "Kulu") is the principal town of the sub-division. It is situated near the junction of the Sarbarri and Beas rivers and the upper bazaar is built on a triangular plateau between the two. Originally the capital of the kingdom of Lag, it was captured from Jog Chand and his brother Sultan Chand (after whom, according to one tradition, it was named) by Raja Jagat Singh of Naggar and became the capital of the Kulu State. Sultan Chand was killed in battle. His brother, Jog Chand, was captured and decapitated.

Entering Sultanpur from Bajaura the road crosses a large deodar-fringed *maidan* on which are located the dâk bungalow, Civil and Forest Department rest-houses, *serai*, *tahsil*, *thana*, post and telegraph office, hospital, veterinary hospital and school. The *rath* or car of Raghunathji, the principal god of Kulu, which stands on the *maidan*, is also in evidence near the dâk bungalow.



The continuation of the motor road crosses a bridge over the Sarbarri river and, about a mile from the *maidan*, enters the Akhara Bazaar—now of much greater trading importance than the upper bazaar. Leaving Akhara it proceeds to Katrain, 12 miles from Sultanpur, passing, *en route*, the Bundrole, Clifden, Aramgarh, Raison and Dobi estates. Katrain is situated in the widest part of the upper Beas Valley. It is a village of growing importance, and is a good centre for trout fishing on the Beas and certain tributaries. On a precipitous bluff to the left of the road are the ruins of Baragarh Fort, a notable stronghold when Kulu was an independent state. On the right, across the river, can be seen Naggar Castle, now the summer headquarters office of the Kulu sub-division. A red-roofed structure at a slightly higher elevation than Naggar Castle marks one of the buildings of the Urusvati Himalayan Research Institute. This Institute was founded in 1928 by Professor and



Motor road near Katrain

Mme. de Roerich for the purpose of scientific research and conducts work in Archæology, Philology and Arts, Natural Sciences and Medical Research, a special feature being its research in the field of ancient Pharmacopœia for which purpose a collection of local *materia medica* has been organized. In the field of Linguistics the Institute issues a series *Tibetica*. It also maintains a research library and natural history collections. Detailed descriptions of the work of this Institute are contained in its *Journals of Urusvati* which are published periodically.

From Katrain the road goes onward to Manali (12 miles), the termination of the route for motor traffic. As Manali is approached the valley gradually becomes more enclosed and the landscape of its boundaries assumes a bolder shape. On one side dense forest leading steeply up to a green expanse of *thach*; on the opposite side bare perpendicular cliffs and lofty precipitous mountains. Manali is one of the scenic show places of the sub-division and most visitors to Kulu include it in their itinerary. The Dhungri Temple, dedicated to the goddess Harimba (*Hirma Devi*) and one of the most historically important temples in the valley, is about half a mile to the west of the rest-house. Located in the midst of immense deodars, reputed to be over a thousand years old, it is framed in a weird setting. The interior of the temple, as seen from the doorway, with large boulders lying around in the semi-darkness and a rope hanging from the roof adds to its sinister appearance. The temple is about 80 feet high, of rather clumsy construction from an architectural point of view, and is slightly out of perpendicular. On the side facing east it is extensively decorated by carved woodwork.

One-way traffic for motor lorries is enforced on the Sultanpur-Manali road, crossing at Katrain. Timings can be ascertained at Sultanpur.

*En route* from Pathankot petrol is obtainable at Gaggar (where the road to Dharmsala branches off from the main road), Jogindernagar, Mandi and Kulu. The price per gallon increases at each of the above supply dépôts as the motorist gets further away from the plains.

The journey from Pathankot to Kulu by car can be accomplished in one day if necessary, but it involves a very early start

from Pathankot in order to reach the first one-way traffic barrier at Ghatta, 85 miles away, by 9-45 a.m. A more comfortable journey from the plains is to spend a night at one of the intervening dâk bungalows—Shahpur, Palampur, Baijnath, Jogindernagar or Mandi City.

Travellers to Kulu *via* the Kangra Valley Railway to Baijnath-Paprola and onward by mail lorry service reach Baijnath shortly after 9 a.m. and make connection with the mail lorry which reaches Kulu (Sultanpur) about 6-30 p.m. These approximate timings are, of course, subject to alteration and may be speeded up to a certain extent when the Ghatta—Mandi road-making scheme is completed. The journey from Pathankot, right through to Kulu, can also be made by motor lorry, but travellers will have to change into another lorry at Baijnath.

For travellers who are fond of walking or riding, and who prefer to get away from the motor road and the sound of motor traffic, there are other very pleasant routes from Mandi State into Kulu, and some good fishing *en-route*—

- (a) *via* the Bhabu Pass, 9,480 feet.
- (b) „ Dulchi Pass, 6,760 feet.

The former branches off the main motor road at Ghatasni, the crest of the ridge above Guma, about eight miles beyond Jogindernagar. From Ghatasni to the dâk bungalow at Jhatingri the distance is about three miles. As this dâk bungalow is off the main motor road seven days' notice of its intended occupation should be given to the State Engineer, Mandi, so that necessary arrangements can be made for supplies, servants, etc. From Jhatingri the road drops down to the Uhl Valley where the river is crossed and where some good trout fishing is obtainable under a Mandi State license. From Jhatingri to Bhadwani the distance is about twelve miles along a very pleasant road. Bhadwani bungalow, now a Forest rest-house, is pleasantly situated on a slight eminence from which a good view of the Bhabu Pass can be obtained. From Bhadwani to the foot of the Pass the road is fairly level, but the ziz-zag path up the mountain is rather steep in places. It is, however, rideable the whole way. From the top of the Pass down to

Karaon the road mostly runs through forest and is well shaded. The last stage of the journey, Karaon to Sultanpur, is only eight miles. About half-way down, that branch of the Sarbarri which is followed from Karaon, converges with another branch which has its source near the Goralatnu Pass. Near this junction and down to about a mile above Sultanpur, the river is well worth fishing. A Kulu license is necessary. In addition to trout, barbel are very numerous in the Sarbarri and it is not uncommon to catch them on a small fly, especially a "Coachman." The Bhabu Pass route traverses some lovely country and provides scenic effects on a much more elaborate scale than does the motor road into Kulu.

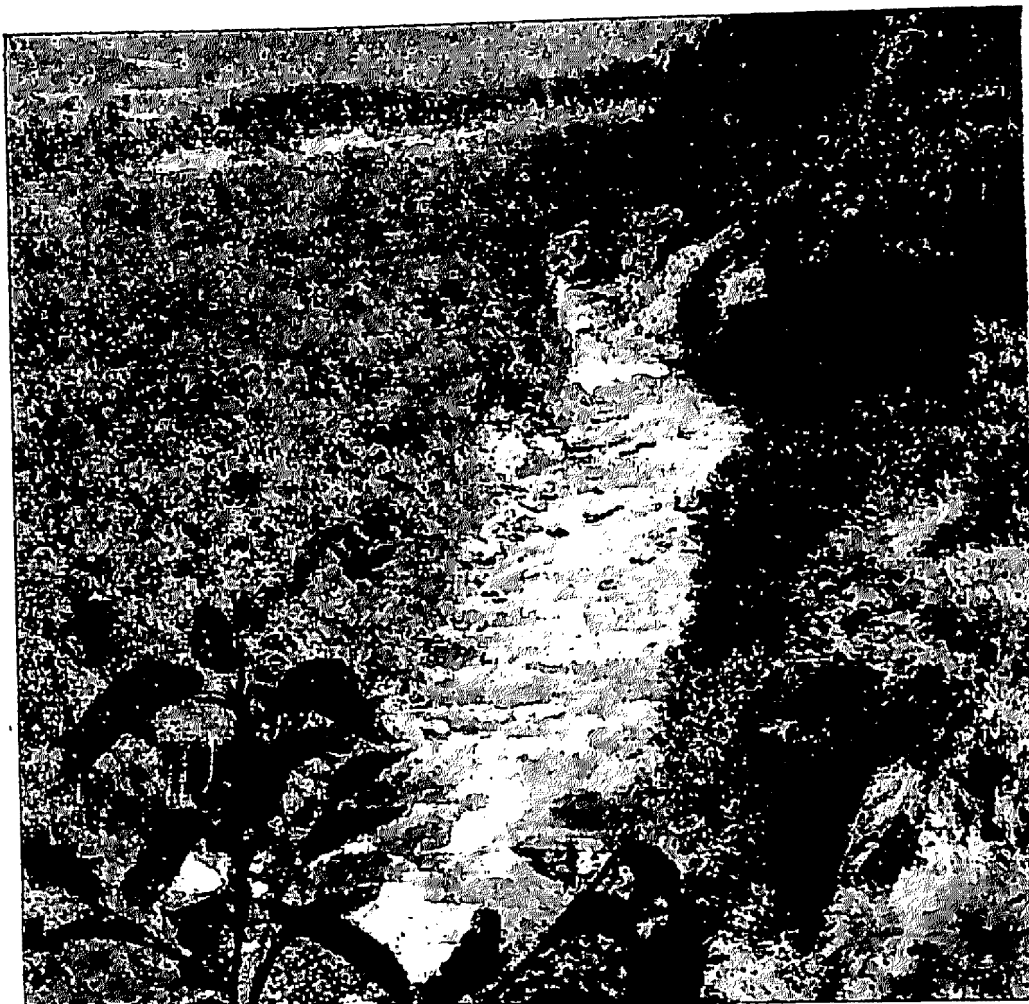
The Dulchi Pass route may be commenced from either Drang or Mandi City. It is, however, easier to arrange for transport from Mandi. The two roads meet near the top of the ridge which overlooks the Uhl valley. The first stage, from either Drang or Mandi, to Kataula, is about 14 miles and some very good fishing, under a Mandi State license, can be obtained near Kamand bridge which spans the Uhl river, about four miles short of Kataula. The road from Kamand up to the rest-house is along the right bank of a small stream which, where easily get-at-able, might be worth fishing in its lower reaches. From Kataula to Bajaura, over the Dulchi Pass, is a long, wearisome march.

With the exception of Jhatingri there are no dâk bungalows on either route so travellers should take their own supplies. Except for a chowkidar no servants are maintained at the rest-houses. Permission to occupy the Forest rest-houses at Bhadwani and Kataula should be obtained from the Conservator of Forests, Mandi State, and for the Karaon and Bajaura Civil rest-houses from the Assistant-Commissioner, Kulu. Riding ponies, pack ponies or mules can usually be arranged through the Tehsildars at Jogindernagar and Mandi City if timely notice be given. The approximate rate for pack animals is Re. 1 to Re. 1/4 per stage of 12 miles. To meet the convenience of anglers travelling *via* the Bhabu and Dulchi Pass routes, daily fishing licenses at Rs. 3/- per day are now available. Licenses can be obtained from the Revenue Minister, Mandi State.

From Simla to Kulu, 122 miles, the shorter and more frequented route is *via* Luhri and the Jalori Pass (10,000 feet). There are dāk bungalows or rest-houses at all stages and, with the exceptions of Khanag and Shoja, local supplies are fairly plentiful. An alternative route from Simla to Kulu is *via* Narkanda and the Hindustan-Tibet Road to Rampur-Bashahr and thence over the Basleo Pass (10,750 feet). The latter route joins the Jalori Pass road at Banjar. Both routes are closed to traffic during the winter months. Riding ponies or mules hired from Simla are charged for at Simla rates which are higher than those in force in Kulu and Mandi State.

There is some good fishing on the Kulu side of the Passes. On the Basleo Pass route below Bathad, especially near the Bandel Forest rest-house, are many likely looking stretches of water which contain trout. The Jalori Pass route is not so good, but the stream between Jibhi and Banjar might be worth a trial. Fishing on the Tirthan, between Banjar and Larji, is described in Chapter V. A Kulu license is necessary for fishing the upper reaches of the Tirthan.

Lists of dāk bungalows and civil and departmental rest-houses on the main routes to and in Kulu are given in Appendix B.



Beas below Katrain

### CHAPTER III

#### TROUT CULTURE IN KULU

Brown Trout (*Salmo fario*) were introduced into the Beas river in the spring of 1909 by Mr. G. C. L. Howell, I.C.S., F.Z.S., Assistant Commissioner of the sub-division at that period, and who, later, became the first Director of Fisheries in the Punjab. Mr. Howell's successor as Assistant Commissioner (Mr. J. Coldstream, I.C.S.), as well as the late General Osborne, a resident of Kulu, rendered valuable and willing assistance to the furtherance of the enterprise. Mr. (now Major) H. Banon, another resident of Kulu, also assisted Mr. Howell in the transport of ova for the various streams of the district and even further afield. Mr. Howell was succeeded in 1915 by Mr. C. H. Donald, F.Z.S., Warden of Fisheries. Under the latter officer's long and able administration the culture of trout and the

planting of fry in Punjab hill streams made wonderful progress. After Mr. Donald's retirement trout streams came under the control of the Game Warden of the Province, Mr. M. David, Indian Forest Service, who further augmented angling amenities and was responsible for the construction of a path on the left bank of the Beas which opened up many miles of good fishing water. Since his recall to the Forest Department the Fisheries Research Officer, Dr. Hamid Khan Bhatti, has, in addition to his own duties, assumed control of the Game and Fisheries Departments.

The first consignment of Brown Trout was imported from Kashmir in the shape of "eyed ova" which, when sufficiently developed for self-preservation against wholesale destruction, were planted in the Beas. Of this consignment of nearly 23,000, over 18,000 fry were planted in the river between Kelat and Katrain; about 2,000 above Manali; and a further 2,000 between Katrain and Raison. The water and environment proved suitable and, from the beginning, so far as the Beas and certain of its tributaries are concerned, the experiment was an undoubted success. Since 1909 many lakhs of Brown Trout fry have been planted in the Beas, its tributaries, and other streams in the Punjab hills.

The original hatcheries and stock ponds for Brown Trout culture were located in the Chhaki Nala until 1927, when the present hatcheries and stock ponds at Mahili, near Naggar Bridge, were completed. In addition to the hatcheries at Mahili a Fisheries Research Laboratory has now been established and the Research Officer and his staff are doing useful work on the survey of trout waters with a view to improve the fishing. Their work chiefly consists of an analysis of fish food and the quantity available; study of local insect fauna which constitutes the principal food of trout; and a study of fin rot and other trout diseases. Both the hatcheries and the research laboratory are well worth a visit by anglers or others interested in trout culture.

The principal operations in Trout culture comprise—(a) stripping and fertilization, (b) eyeing of ova, (c) hatching of ova, (d) care of "alevins," (e) care of and planting of fry.

Stripping Brown Trout in the Kulu hatcheries usually commences about the middle of November and is completed during January. The eggs of Brown Trout take from 15 to 50 days (depending upon the temperature of the water) for the eyes to appear. At a temperature of 54°F. the eyes will appear in about 15 days, and at 41°F. in about 49 days. According to Mr. Howell's original experiments about 50°F. in Kulu may be taken as the most favourable temperature for "eyeing." When the "eyes" appear, the eggs become quite hardy and can be moved without much danger. After a further six weeks, or a little more, the eggs hatch out as "alevins." Attached to the "alevin" is an umbilical sac on which the embryo exists for about 28 to 30 days after which period the young fish begins to feed on minute entomostraca in the water.

The first two stages of a "wild" trout's existence comprise the period of its greatest peril. Trout culture in hatcheries practically eliminates this danger period, as the eggs and alevins are safe from most of the hazards which beset these stages of the "wild" trout's entity. Dragon-fly larvae, water beetles and other insects, as well as frogs and older fish, all take their toll of the embryo, but once a troutlet can swim and feed from natural sources, it develops the instinct of self-preservation and is more or less safe from insect enemies and frogs. In their wild state the young fry must fend for themselves both as regards food and self-preservation. In the hatcheries, when ready to leave the hatching boxes, they are turned out into rearing ponds through which a stream of water is constantly flowing which provides for them a large amount of natural food and, at the same time, ensures their protection from older fish and other enemies.

When fit to be planted out in streams the fry are collected from the rearing ponds and transported in "carriers" to their respective destinations. Brown Trout from the Kulu hatcheries are usually planted in nursery streams during May and June.

Notwithstanding their predilection for an occasional diet of flies, as so vividly exemplified during the Mayfly season in Great Britain and other countries, trout all the world over probably exist more on underwater food than they do on an actual fly diet, and the trout of Kulu provide no exception to



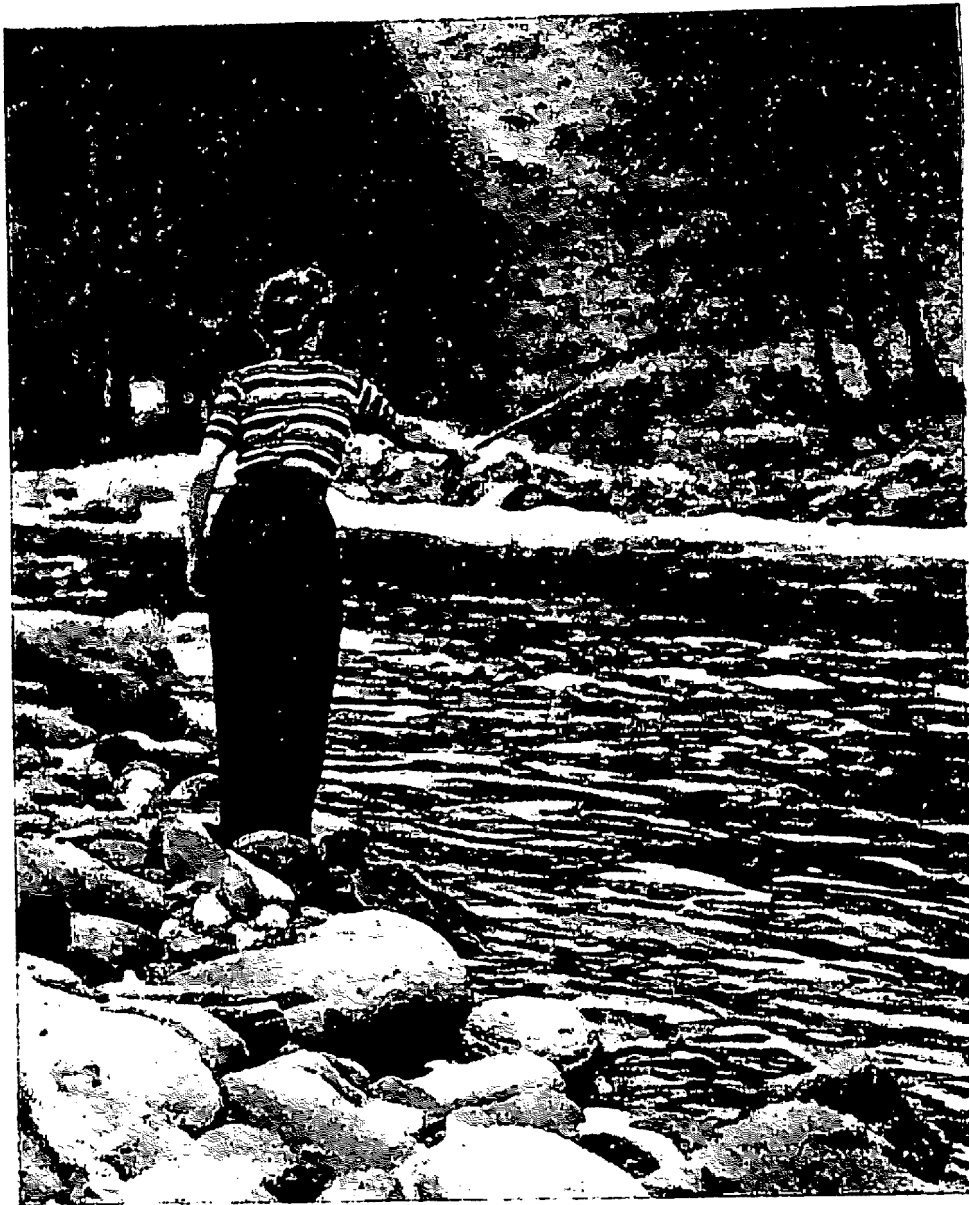
this general rule. There is a plentiful supply of such food available including the water flea (which attaches its shell to stones in the rivers); snails; fresh-water crabs; leeches; caddis; earthworms, etc. Examination, by the Research Officer, of the stomach contents of thousands of trout has shown that caddis forms the largest percentage of natural food. Last but not least in the diet of the Kulu trout are the fry of the indigenous barbel and the enemy of the trout in its embryo stage, the frog. Barbel breeds very rapidly in its own environment and its fecundity provides a well-stocked larder for the gratification of the cannibalistic tendencies of trout.

The following scale, published by *The Field*, gives the approximate weight for inches in length of trout:

lbs. ozs.				lbs. ozs.			
9 inches	...	0	5	19 inches	...	2	15
10 "	...	0	7	20 "	...	3	7
11 "	...	0	9	21 "	...	4	0
12 "	...	0	12	22 "	...	4	9
13 "	...	0	15	23 "	...	5	3
14 "	...	1	3	24 "	...	5	15
15 "	...	1	7	25 "	...	6	11
16 "	...	1	12	26 "	...	7	8
17 "	...	2	2	27 "	...	8	7
18 "	...	2	8	28 "	...	9	6

[Measurements must be made from end of snout  
to end of middle rays of tail fin.]

From a series of actual measurements made in Kulu the weight, generally, was slightly higher than the above scale.



Fly fishing on the Beas

## CHAPTER IV

### TROUT FISHING IN THE BEAS

There are two head streams of the Beas river—the Beas Kund and the Rikki Beas. The former rises in a glacial lake at the head of the Solang Nala and the latter on the Rohtang Pass. The confluence of the two streams lies between Kothi and Manali. From their junction a mere footpath follows the Beas Kund towards its source up the Solang Nala, but the Rikki Beas is crossed at several places by the mule road which traverses the Rohtang Pass and the spring from which it rises, near the crest of the Rohtang, is much better known.

In the first nine miles from its source the Rikki Beas drops about 6,000 feet. It plunges over waterfalls, races through gorges of great depth and, below Kothi, forces its way through a chasm between sheer cliffs—almost a subterranean passage—a hundred feet or more in depth. After its junction with the Beas Kund the main stream follows a boulder-strewn course for some miles, but below Manali its channel becomes wider, the water less turbulent and is easily fishable in many places from either bank. As it flows on down the valley it is occasionally separated into two or more branches by small wooded islands. In its normal state the average breadth of the Beas in Kulu is about 100 feet; in flood it is frequently much wider and in places where the banks are low-lying may occasionally overflow.

Anglers whose experience of trout fishing has been limited to the smooth chalk streams of England or the small “burns” of Scotland will not be inclined to regard the Beas as an ideal trout river until they have sampled the sport obtainable, but to the fisherman who has had the opportunity of casting a fly on the mountain rivers of Norway or North-West America, the sight of the Beas during the fly fishing seasons of the year will provide a thrill of anticipation. In the course of its 24 miles from Manali to Sultanpur the current winds from bank to bank, deep and smooth in certain stretches, broader and shallower in others, but fretful and turbulent where it descends a steep grade encumbered with large boulders. Sir Isaac Walton’s river of the “harmonious bubbling voice” has little counterpart on the reserved waters of the Beas. Even on its longest pool it is difficult to get away from the roar of the torrent.

Mr. Howell, who was mainly responsible for the introduction of trout into the Beas divided the main river between Manali and Akhara Bridge (23 miles) into the following reaches:

Manali to Kelat Bridge	... 6 miles.
Kelat Bridge to Naggar Bridge	... 5 „
Naggar Bridge to Raison Bridge	... 6 „
Raison Bridge to Akhara Bridge	... 6 „

At a later date, under Punjab Government Notification No. 1848-D., dated 9th May, 1925, Appendix D, the Sujain and the

Beas, below the mouth of the Sujain, were divided into ten reaches. *These reaches, however, have never been allocated to license-holders* and one of the many charms of fishing in Kulu is that the angler goes practically where he pleases and can range the Valley from end to end instead of being tied to one small section of the river. There are several very small stretches where, chiefly on religious grounds, fishing is prohibited, but these do not, to any extent, detract from the general freedom which the angler enjoys. In the 1925 division of the river into reaches that portion of the Beas above the Sujain bridge was not included, yet there are many miles of good fishing higher up, towards Manali, and this stretch of eight or nine miles on each side of the river will comfortably accommodate a number of rods. Some years ago good fishing was obtainable even above Manali but, for some reason or other, trout appear to have deserted these higher waters and to have gradually dropped down the river to Manali and below, where the Beas is less turbulent. Efforts are again being made to stock the waters above Manali.

On all the reaches enumerated and on the additional part of the river that has not been divided into specified reaches, trout are fairly plentiful and good fishing may be anticipated, providing, of course, the right bait or lure for the appropriate season of the year is used. Anglers who have previously fished in the Kulu Valley naturally have a preference for certain stretches of water and make for the same places year after year with the result that certain pools and runs attain, perhaps at the expense of other portions of the river, a higher reputation for good sport than is absolutely justified. Also, the frequent whipping of such water with a varied assortment of flies, and spinning it with all sorts of artificial baits by anglers, skilled, less skilled and definitely unskilled, have rendered many of the older fish both wise and wary.

Trout fishing on the Beas is not limited to reserved waters above the third milestone between Sultanpur and Katrain. In spite of the river below this point being netted daily by a number of local licensed fishermen, fishing can also be obtained with rod and line. The netting licencees are only allowed to use casting nets ( $1\frac{1}{4}$ " bar mesh) and on a rapid stream like

the Beas even the experienced and sure-footed Kulu fisherman dare not venture very far from the bank. They do, of course, take out a number of trout, which are chiefly sold in Sultanpur to residents and visitors, but their principal catch is the indigenous barbel with which the river, especially in the lower reaches, is well stocked. The annual report of the Department of Fisheries, Punjab, for 1924-25 records that a trout of about 16 lbs. was netted by a local fisherman near the Duff-Dunbar Bridge\* at Bhuin. Since this date a still heavier fish of 18 lbs. was netted between Bhuntar and Bajaura. Local netters not infrequently obtain fish of from five to ten pounds, chiefly in the deep pools below Sultanpur. As big trout are invariably cannibals and destroy thousands of young fish, their removal from the river, even by netting, is all to the good.

Most anglers have a decided preference for deep pools and the smooth shallower expanses of water, but it is not necessary to confine one's endeavours to these particular places. The eddies behind big stones and cavities under water-worn boulders are the homes of many trout, in which they lie in wait for their food to be washed down to them. The angler who leaves this latter factor out of his reckoning and concentrates all his energies on the big pools and easily fished stretches of water, free from stones and boulders, may keep all his tackle intact, but misses a lot of sport. There are undoubtedly big fish in most of the deep pools but there are also innumerable smaller pools on each side of the river and these should not be passed over with contempt as unlikely to hold a decent-sized trout. If of reasonable depth they mostly contain fish and, with a limited expanse of water in which to play and land them, there is as much or more excitement in the fishing than landing bigger fish on larger expanses of open water.

Parts of the river appear practically unfishable with fly owing to the close proximity of trees with overhanging branches. Trout, especially on a clear day, have a strong propensity for these shady spots. With a little manœuvring the

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\* Note.—Fishing is now prohibited in the Beas 100 yards above and below the image of Hanumanji which is approximately 100 yards above Duff-Dunbar Bridge on the right bank of the Beas near the village of Bhuin. (*Punjab Gazette* Notification No. 832-D., dated 31st March, 1933).

apparent difficulty of getting a fly over such water can to a certain extent be overcome. The use of the left hand and arm in casting will frequently cover water unfishable with the right. A convenient boulder in the river may also provide a vantage point, but in this latter respect a few words of warning are necessary. Beware of stones covered with green slime; they afford very precarious foothold. Likewise beware of stones that are not firmly embedded on the bottom or on the sides of the river. After a flood many large stones are left in positions that require very little pressure to overbalance them and, irrespective of bruised or broken bones, a fall into the rapid torrent of the Beas is fraught with dangerous consequences.

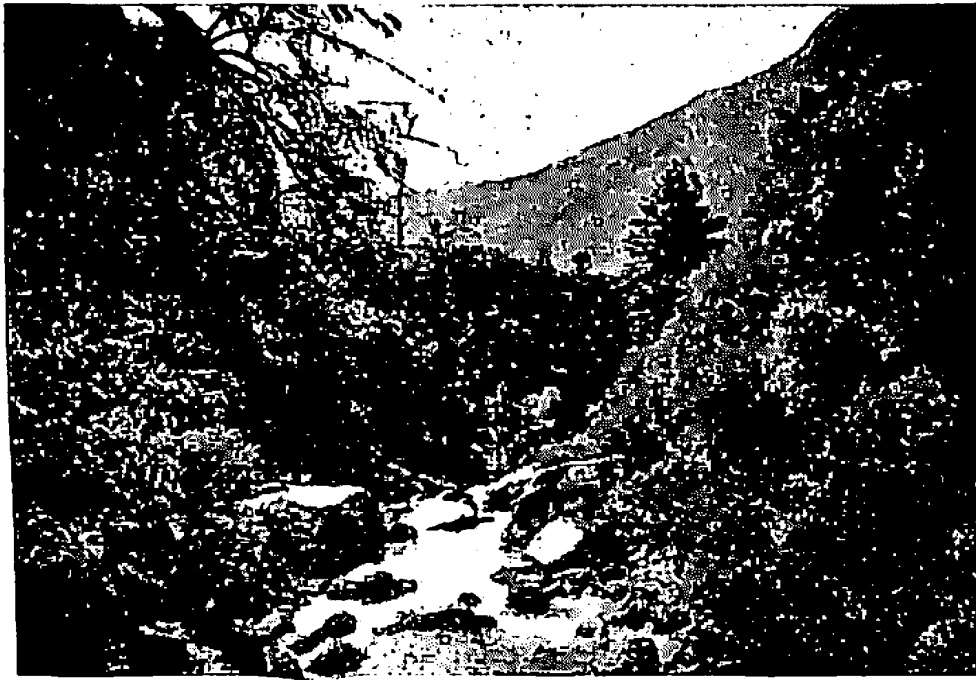
Whatever disadvantages Kulu may be said to possess in comparison with other trout-fishing resorts, its popularity is undoubtedly increasing. In 1923 only 17 licenses were issued. By 1930 they had increased to 99. But in 1940 they totalled over 300. The largest trout taken on rod and line during the summer of 1940 weighed  $6\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. It was caught, while spinning, by Major French of the Indian Army.

Revised rates for fishing licenses, in the reserved area, are as follows:

			Rs.	a.	p.
For one day, single	...	...	2	0	0
For ten days, "	...	...	10	0	0
" " " family	...	...	12	8	0
For one month, single	...	...	25	0	0
" " " family	...	...	30	0	0
For season, single	...	...	60	0	0
" " " family	...	...	75	0	0

In addition to the S. D. O. (Civil), Kulu, and the Sub-Inspector of Fisheries, Kulu, fishing licenses for the reserved area can be obtained from Lt.-Col. T. Minniken, Raison; T. Tyson, Esq., "River-view," Katrain; and Major H. M. Banon, Manali.

A rod-and-line license for unreserved waters within the jurisdiction of the Assistant Commissioner, Kulu, costs Rs. 4 for the whole season or for any part of the season.



A tributary of the Beas

## CHAPTER V

### TROUT FISHING IN TRIBUTARIES OF THE BEAS

The Beas has many tributaries on both banks in its course through the Kulu Valley, but not all of them can be said to provide good trout fishing. Those most popular with anglers are:

*Right bank*

Sujain  
Phojal  
Shirrid  
Sarbarri

*Left bank*

Chakki  
Parbatti  
Sainj  
Tirthan

Bottom fishing with worm, natural or artificial, and other ground bait including grasshoppers, frogs, etc., is prohibited in tributaries which run into the Beas above mile 3/1 from Kulu. This prohibition includes the Sujain, Phojal, Shirrid and Chakki streams.

*Sujain.*—The Sujain flows into the Beas about a mile above Katrain (13 miles from Sultanpur). From the bridge, which carries the main road over the Sujain, there is a narrow footpath up each side of the stream, but unless one is prepared to wade for a few yards, progress along the left bank is barred by a rocky steep which rises

straight up from the bed of the river. The right bank provides the better route and affords easy access to some good pools, but even this path, especially towards the head of the reach, is overgrown with prickly thorn bushes, an impediment not conducive to comfortable walking. At the head of the path, about a mile from the road bridge, is a waterfall, the steep rocky sides of which form a barrier to further progress along the sides of the river. The deep pool immediately under the waterfall usually contains a number of good fish, but unless a breeze is blowing upstream, it is difficult to cast either fly or lure with any good effect. The noise of rushing water and swirling eddies, the enclosed surroundings and dense vegetation, all combine to make the fishing of this pool an uncanny experience. It is a moot point as to whether there is any fishing above the fall. Occasional reports are received of trout being washed down irrigation channels which take off above the waterfall, but these reports still lack definite confirmation.

Below the Sujain Bridge to its junction with the Beas, the stream affords easy fishing. At the foot of the bridge pool it is divided into two sections by a strip of land and its water enters the Beas in two places. During summer the Sujain is usually fishable with fly while the main river is still full of snow water. Owing to the construction of bunds, almost the width of the river, for taking off water for purposes of irrigation and grain mills, the Sujain is not nearly so good a fishing river as it was a few years ago.

*Phojal.*—The Phojal enters the Beas at Dobi (Mr. W. H. Donald's estate) about a mile below Katrain (11 miles from Sultanpur). This is another good trout stream at certain seasons of the year and, like the Sujain, is fishable with fly when the Beas is impossible for this type of sport. There are footpaths on both banks of the river as far as the top bridge, about three miles upstream. The left bank is much more accessible than the right where, at several places, detours have to be made over steep overhanging rocks, and at others to force a way through thick masses of thorn bush. Near both the lower and upper bridges the stream is easily accessible from both banks.



A morning walk along the left bank of the Phojal as far as the top bridge, then fishing down to the road bridge, or even to where the stream joins the main river, affords a very pleasant day's outing. In several places by the edge of the river the going is rather difficult, but not unsurmountable if one is prepared to clamber over occasional boulders or walk through a few inches of water.

Very few anglers have fished the Phojal any distance above the top bridge, as approaches to the river, on both banks, are rather difficult. On the left bank a climb over the breast of a hill is necessitated. Unlike the Sujain, however, there are no steep waterfalls to bar trout moving upstream and the upper reaches of the river may repay further exploration.

During monsoon periods the Phojal is occasionally subject to heavy floods which can do a lot of damage. When the water subsides after such inundations hundreds of fish can usually be picked up from the ground over which the stream has overflowed.

*Shirrid.*—The Shirrid enters the Beas a little above Raison, between the eighth and ninth mile from Sultanpur. It is a much smaller stream than other tributaries mentioned, but comprises in its fishable length some nice pools which hold good fish at certain seasons of the year. There are footpaths along both banks, but the left bank provides the easier fishing. In many places the stream can be crossed so it does not make a great deal of difference which bank is followed. During the season for transplanting rice the Shirrid proves a death-trap for all fish in its lower reaches. Most of its water is diverted into irrigation channels and both trout and barbel are stranded in shallow, shrinking pools—an easy prey to bird or man.

*Sarbarri.*—The Sarbarri runs into the main river near Kulu (Sultanpur). It used to be a very good trout river, but when opened to netting some years ago its value, in this respect, rapidly diminished. It has again been closed to netting and should, in course of time, recover its original reputation. Even now, if one gets away from the vicinity of Sultanpur, it is well worth fishing. There is a footbridge about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles

upstream and another about three miles, and between the two bridges a footpath on the left bank provides fairly easy access to some good water. Above the top bridge and up to and above the junction at mile 4, along the right bank, are some nice pools which harbour a plentiful supply of both trout and barbel. Of the two streams which unite at the junction one rushes down from the Bhabu while the other drains the Dhugi Lug valley. There are many likely looking stretches in both sections, but they involve rather a long walk or ride to get at them.

The Sarbarri also teems with barbel and it is not unusual to hook them while fly-fishing. Any one inclined to worming for this species should have no difficulty in obtaining a full creel. Like the Phojal the Sarbarri is subject to occasional heavy floods during the monsoon.

*Chakki.*—The Chakki enters the Beas very near the mouth of the Sujain, but on the opposite bank. It is a narrow stream and, with the exception of a few pools, very difficult to fish owing to overhanging trees, thorn brushes and thick undergrowth. The right bank provides the better footpath. It used to be a good little trout stream, but bore evidence of extensive poaching and, on this account, may have deteriorated in recent years. Some of the larger pools have very narrow outlets and it is an easy matter for poachers to clear them of most of the fish they contain. It is, however, worth a trial from its junction with the Beas up to a point where it is crossed by the road from Naggar to Manali. There may be trout above this point if they can overcome the obstruction caused by a small waterfall near the road bridge.

*Parbatti.*—The Parbatti, which is joined by the Malana river at Jari and the Kasol river near the village of that name, enters the Beas near Bhuin. Near the junction it is as large as the Beas. Although in the unreserved area it is definitely a good trout river, but during the greater part of the season its waters are too dirty for fly fishing. Moreover, it is well off the beaten track and unless one is prepared to spend several days up the Parbatti Valley the best reaches are not easily get-at-able. But for such as can afford the time and have the inclination for a trek as far afield as Kasol, especially in the very

early part of the season, some good fishing is available. There are Forest rest-houses at Bhuin, Jari and Kasol and permission to occupy them should be obtained from the Divisional Forest Officer, Kulu Division, Kulu. Bhuin is only about a mile from the motor road—across the Duff-Dunbar Bridge from Bhuntar (two miles from Bajoura and seven from Sultanpur). From Bhuin to Jari is rather a long 13 miles and a hot march unless tackled early in the morning. From Jari to Kasol is just under six miles, a pleasant walk. For the first few miles from Bhuin the river, in many places, is easily accessible, but the best fishing grounds are higher up where it is not quite so easy of access. It can be fished from Jari if one walks down to the bridge which spans the river at this point. Between Jari and Kasol are many likely-looking pools and runs not difficult to get at, while immediately below and above Kasol are some good stretches of water. The little river which flows into the Parbatti at Kasol is usually clear of snow water and affords good fly fishing when the big river is a raging torrent of snow broth. Near Manikarn, about two miles beyond Kasol and famous for its hot springs, the river is a series of cascades and it is doubtful if there are any trout in the higher reaches.

*Sainj*.—The Sainj is a fairly large tributary flowing west from a high peak on the Spiti boundary. It is joined by the Tirthan near Larji after which the united rivers enter the Beas. The Sainj has been well stocked with trout from Kulu hatcheries, but as the upper reaches of this stream are off the beaten track, it has not frequently been fished except perhaps by district and forest officers touring in the vicinity. There is a civil rest-house at Larji and a forest rest-house at Sainj, nearly nine miles up the valley, on the left bank of the river.

The best, or perhaps the best-known fishing reach, is from two miles above Larji up to  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles. Beyond this point it is somewhat difficult to get at the river as the road runs high above it on the side of a mountain. There are, of course, a number of places where one can scramble down, but the arduous ascent back to the main road somewhat neutralises the joy of the sport that may be obtainable. There is a bridge across the river about three miles above Larji and its vicinity, on both banks of the river, affords some good sport.



The Sainj, like the Parbatti, is usually full of snow water from the middle of April and does not clear up again until late in the season. The altitude near Larji is just over 3,000 feet and the surroundings and scenery are much more tropical than on any of the tributaries previously mentioned.

Permission to occupy the Larji rest-house should be obtained from the Assistant Commissioner, Kulu, and for the Sainj rest-house from the Divisional Forest Officer, Seraj Division, Kulu.

*Tirthan.*—The Tirthan, which meets the Sainj at Larji, springs from the same high mountain, Shupa Kuni, but from the southern flank and is much less susceptible to discoloration by snow water. It is, however, more accessible than its sister river, the Sainj, as the main road between Kulu and Simla follows its course almost to Banjar and there are good rest-houses at Larji and Banjar. The Tirthan is a good trout stream, but its best reaches are some miles away from the nearest rest-houses and to fish it in comparative comfort for any length of time a tent is necessary. Small cars, at owners' own risk, may cross the Beas bridge from Aut, the Sainj bridge near Larji and a wooden bridge  $2\frac{1}{4}$  miles upstream from Larji, but none of these bridges are guaranteed safe for motor traffic.

The distance between Larji and Banjar is 12 miles and the best fishing is from three miles above Larji up to Manglour, which is four miles short of Banjar. There is some very nice water for spinning between the third and fifth mile from Larji and big fish in all the deep pools which are usually much more responsive to spinning bait than to fly. After crossing the wooden bridge above Larji the road runs for some miles in Mandi State territory and the river, in this section, is fishable under licenses issued both in Kulu and Mandi.

In July, 1932, the Tirthan suffered disaster from an unusually heavy flood and was practically denuded of trout. When the flood water subsided the river banks were covered with dead fish which were removed in kiltaloads by villagers living nearby. The Fisheries Department has, however, generously restocked the river and it is now as good, or better, than it was prior to the big flood.

A word of warning about fishing the Tirthan, especially between about the third and fifth miles from Larji. It is not unusual, especially when sheep are grazing on the hillsides above the right bank, for stones and boulders to be loosened and to come crashing down into the river and even on to the opposite bank. A hit from one of these stones and fishing would have no further interest!

There is some good-looking trout water between Banjar and Bandel on the Basleo Pass road which might be well worth trying by anyone travelling that route. The rest-house at Banjar belongs to the P.W.D. and permission to occupy it should be obtained from the Sub-Divisional Officer, P.W.D., Kulu.

In addition to the streams described in the preceding paragraphs there are several other tributaries of the Beas in Kulu, the most important of which are the Manalsu on the right bank and the Alaina and Hurla on the left bank. The Manalsu flows into the Beas just above Manali and the Alaina about two miles below Manali. The Hurla enters the Beas almost opposite Bajoura, about nine miles below Sultanpur. The Manalsu and Alaina are not particularly good trout streams, the Alaina, especially, being too rapid and tumultuous. It is also difficult of access. The Hurla, a small clear-water stream, almost certainly contains trout, but involves a very long walk or ride from the Duff-Dunbar bridge at Bhuin to even get to the river.

### TROUT FISHING IN MANDI STATE

*Uhl.*—The river Uhl is also a tributary of the Beas, but it is outside the Kulu sub-division and a Mandi State license is necessary. Trout fishing on the Uhl extends over an area of about ten miles and includes the upper reaches at Brot and areas near Jhatingri and Kamand Bridge. Brot can be reached from Jogindernaggar by bridle path, nearly nine miles. There is also a haulage-way connecting the two places, but as this belongs to the Hydro-Electric Department it can only be used with the permission of the Resident Engineer, Jogindernaggar. There are P.W.D. rest-houses at both Brot and Jogindernaggar, and a State dak bungalow at Jogindernaggar.

A fishing "shack" at Brot has also recently been constructed by the State authorities.

For fishing the Uhl, below Jhatingri, the dak bungalow at Jhatingri is the nearest residential point. The river is about 3 or  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles away. There is a motor road, from the main road, up to the dak bungalow, but from the bungalow down to the river, on the opposite side of the mountain, a bridle path only is available. This path forms part of the Bhabu Pass route into Kulu. Seven days notice should be given to the State Engineer for proposed occupation of the Jhatingri bungalow.

Kamand Bridge is about eight miles from the motor road, either from Drang or from Mandi. The nearest rest-house is at Kataula, four miles from the bridge. Permission for its occupation should be obtained from the Conservator of Forests, Mandi State. Rent is Re. 1/- per day. Chowkidar only is in charge.

License fees for trout fishing on the Uhl are as follows:

			Rs.
One day	...	...	3/-
Ten days	...	...	15/-
One month	...	...	30/-

The minimum size limit is 12 inches. Unless badly hooked and unlikely to recover, fish of less than this size should be carefully returned to the river. Rod and line licensees may use the same lures and baits as are allowed under a Kulu license, enumerated in Appendix D. The fishing season, 2nd March to 31st October, is also the same as in Kulu.





The Beas near Manali.

## CHAPTER VI

### TACKLE AND BAITS FOR TROUT IN KULU

The selection of tackle for any particular type of fishing is necessarily dependent upon a knowledge of the manner in which it is to be used and the beginner would do well to consult an angler of some experience. Even an expert cannot do much with poor tackle, so a badly selected outfit is apt to discourage the novice from further perseverance, especially in the art of dropping a fly lightly and gently on the water to be fished. This does not mean to imply that expensive luxurious equipment is absolutely necessary, but a rod, reel and line suited to the type of fishing to be practised, with the least expenditure commensurate with efficiency.

#### FLY FISHING

*Rod.*—For fly fishing, wet or dry, and for casting generally, a good rod is perhaps the most essential part of the outfit of the angler. Not necessarily an expensive model, but a well-balanced rod capable of standing the strain of playing heavy fish in a fast-running river. A nine-to-ten-foot built cane or greenheart is the most useful for a river like the Beas, although a shorter fly rod can be used with advantage on some of the smaller streams. If comfort during a long day's fishing is any consideration, a whippy, heavy rod should definitely be avoided. As

accidents occasionally happen to the best of anglers, an extra top should be available. The most convenient methods of carrying the spare top are in the handle of the landing net or in a thin bamboo. Any attempt to carry it in the canvas or cloth cover from which the other parts of the rod have been removed will lead to disaster. Agate butt, intermediate or end rings are not essential, but are useful; the ordinary metal snake rings are liable to rust and when allowed to get in this condition tend to spoil the line.

*Reel.*—A reliable three-inch reel, with single check action, made of light metal capable of carrying 60 yards of line and with a fairly large barrel for quick winding. Should be of simple mechanism, easily taken down for cleaning and oiling. There are many such on the market at reasonable prices. Cheap, thin-barrelled reels, made of brass or other heavy metal, should be avoided, so also should multiplying reels which are not exactly suitable for fly fishing.

*Line.*—A tapered line is most useful and provides greater facilities for casting, but is not absolutely essential for wet fly fishing in Kulu. A water-proof dressed silk line, tested to at least 10 lbs. and suitable for the rod in use, should comply with ordinary requirements. If too light, it will be difficult to cast against a breeze, and if too heavy it may spoil the action of the rod. Tapered lines are usually manufactured in 30- and 35-yard lengths. This length may be ample for trout fishing generally, but in rivers like the Beas and its tributaries, which are known to contain heavy fish, a 30-yard tapered line with 30 yards backing is advocated. It may never be the angler's good fortune to strike into one of the "monsters," but it is as well to be prepared for such a contingency. For dry-fly work a double tapered line, rubbed with red deer fat or some other preparation such as "Ceroline" or "Mucilin," is recommended by experts on this class of fishing.

*Casts.*—Larger flies are necessary for the Beas in Kulu than those most commonly in use on English or Scottish streams and casts should not be too fine—1x, 2x and 3x will probably prove the three most useful strengths for all classes of water. Tapered casts can be used with advantage but are not essential for wet-fly fishing. If not properly stored when out



of use gut casts deteriorate very rapidly and, if fresh casts are not being purchased, old ones should be very carefully examined and tested before the angler sets out for the river. A small stock of absolutely fresh gut for attaching droppers should also be carried. Natural gut, stained misty blue, is usually preferable to most cheap gut substitutes, but "Nylon," "Mono-flow" (or other names under which this particular gut substitute may be marketed) is well worth a trial. Its main advantages are that it does not glitter in the water and that it can be knotted while dry, but, like other gut substitutes, unless special precautions are taken, knots are inclined to slip. The angler who does not employ a *shikari* to net his fish, will find a two-yard cast of sufficient length, and easier to manipulate in landing a fish, than a three-yard cast, especially if he happens to be fishing from a tree-bordered bank with overhanging branches. Anglers accompanied by a *shikari* can utilise a longer cast, but a cast which is longer than the rod should never be used.

*Flies.*—As remarked in a previous paragraph the tiny flies used for trout fishing on English streams are not generally suitable for the Kulu rivers. Lake trout and small salmon flies produce better results and the most useful hook sizes. Limerick, old scale, are from 6 to 10. The selection of specified flies for use at different seasons of the year presents a problem that could most easily be solved by the holder of a full season license who fishes the Beas and its tributaries from March to October. Very few season licenses are issued: they are mostly for periods of ten days or a month. Anglers with previous experience of fishing in Kulu usually stick to their own favourite flies, but for those visiting Kulu for the first time a general list of useful dressings observed over a number of years, is given below:

<i>Early Season</i>	<i>Late Season</i>	
Black Fairy.	Teal and Claret.	
Teal and Black.	Teal and Green.	
March Brown.	Peter Ross.	
Heather Moth.	Dunkeld	} lightly dressed.
Grey Drake.	Silver Doctor	
Olive Nymph.	Black       "	
Brown Nymph.	Blue       "	

Teal, Red and Green; Teal, Yellow and Green; Teal and Yellow; Teal and Silver; Invicta and Watson's Fancy are also very useful flies throughout the year.

For late evening fishing the following are recommended:

Coachman; White, Pink and Brown Moths and Yellow Sally.

Coachman is probably the best all-round fly for Kulu and will attract fish, even during the day, when all others fail.

In addition to those mentioned above, the following set of eight flies designed and arranged by Lt.-Col. Alban Wilson, D.S.O., to represent the natural flies found on Himalayan streams, have occasionally been used with success in Kulu.

- |                         |                       |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| No. 1—Large Brown.      | No. 5—Shining Yellow. |
| „ 2—My Fancy.           | „ 6—Abor Dun.         |
| „ 3—Stone Fly.          | „ 7—Kashmir Dun.      |
| „ 4—Kashmir Summer Dun. | „ 8—Dark Red.         |

They are dressed by Messrs. Hardy Bros. and are obtainable from Mantons in Calcutta.

Except perhaps for experimental purposes it is unnecessary to invest in a large stock of various colours, sizes and patterns. The trout in Kulu rivers are not extremely fastidious and a selection from the foregoing flies should meet all ordinary requirements. As a general rule larger flies should be used in deep or rough water, also early and late in the season. On dark days the darker patterns should be tried and on bright days grey or neutral shades. Lightly dressed flies generally prove more attractive than the heavier dressed patterns, and old flies, worse for wear, appear to be better appreciated than new ones.

The Fisheries Research Department has examined the stomachs of thousands of trout caught by anglers and almost invariably the contents comprise a very high percentage of caddis—or larvæ—which have the appearance of little pieces of stick, dark-brown or black. So it is not unusual to take fish on hooks from which most of the dressing, with the exception of the body, has worn away.

At certain periods, usually late in the evening of fine days during late March and April, fish can be seen rising in all directions on the river, but will not take the proffered bait, however alluring it may have proved on previous days. On these occasions an exception may be made to the general rule that large flies are the most successful. A very small black gnat, black or red midge, or some similar small flies may be used with advantage.

*Flies (Dry).*—Dry-fly fishing is very little practised in Kulu but for those who prefer this method the following varieties should prove useful:

Alder, Dark and Medium Sedge, March Brown Spinner, Greenwell's Glory, Woodcock and Red Hackle, Blue, Red and Olive Quill.

Tributaries of the Beas are easier to fish with dry fly than the main river and will probably give better results. *Kuhls* (irrigation channels) which are known to contain trout, might also be given a trial with dry fly.

#### SPINNING

*Thread-line spinning.*—Next to fly fishing, thread-line spinning is now, in Kulu, the most popular method of catching trout. In recent years even a number of fly enthusiasts have transferred their affections to thread-line methods and it is a common occurrence to meet *shikaris* carrying rods and equipment for both fly and thread-line, which are used alternately in accordance with the type of water to be fished. On the average, bigger fish are taken on thread-line (or any other method of spinning), but the main advantage is that trout will sometimes take a small spinner when they won't look at flies of any description.

Thread-line equipment has of late been considerably improved and simplified and a really good outfit is now nearly as fool-proof as fly fishing tackle. But even with the best of outfits care is necessary if loss of tackle is to be avoided. Some of the deeper pools, on both the main river and its tributaries, which look ideal for spinning, hold many snags in the shape of submerged logs and branches and are frequently too deep for even the most daring *shikari* to enter.

Equipment necessary is a short spinning rod, about seven feet (agate rings throughout are an advantage); thread-line reel with adjustable tension and automatic pick-up; about a hundred yards thread-line with a breaking strain of from two to five pounds; fine gut traces and small spinners, gold, silver, or multi-coloured of from  $\frac{7}{8}$ ths to  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches. (Gold spinners appear to give best results on the Beas.) Complete outfits can be obtained from any reputable tackle dealers. Mr. Alex. Wanless is the great authority on this type of fishing and the perusal of one of his books on the subject will amply repay the beginner.

*Ordinary Spinning.*—A free running reel, with check and quick recovery of line actions, forms an important part of the equipment for this class of fishing. It should carry at least 60 yards of dressed line, strong but fine. A three- or four-foot gut trace (with swivels) is long enough, to which should be attached, when necessary, anti-kink leads to prevent twisting of the line. Live bait in the form of small barbel will provide the most natural form of food for Kulu trout, but bait of this description is difficult to obtain. If live bait is not available, artificial baits of the nearest approach in colour to the barbel could be used. Hardy's "Ideal" Phantom and "Pioneer" Devon,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches long, might prove useful substitutes. Two-inch gold-and-silver "Reflex" Devons also give good results and silver hog-backed spoons,  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches long, occasionally prove attractive.

#### BOTTOM FISHING

*Worm fishing.*—The tackle necessary for worm fishing in Kulu does not call for an elaborate description. An ordinary 9- or 10-foot rod; line dressed or undressed; gut casts about a yard long with split shot for sinkers; single or double hooks to gut (Pennell two-hook worm tackle is the most useful); and last, but not the least necessary item, a disgorger. Red and pink worms, which are available in some parts of the valley, are much more attractive to trout than are the brownish black variety. They should be kept in clean fresh moss for a few days; a large biscuit tin with a few small holes in the lid and sides is useful for this purpose. A good supply of worm fishing tackle is necessary. Owing to the rapidity of the current, the uneven nature of the bottom of these boulder-strewn

streams, submerged logs, sleepers and branches of trees, loss of tackle is difficult to avoid.

*Landing net.*—A light triangular shape, collapsible landing net is the most convenient. The handle should be long and stout enough to be used as a support when wading. A carrying sling for the net is also a very useful accessory.

*Waders.*—Perfectly good sport can be obtained in Kulu without the use of waders, but when shallow parts of the river intervene between the banks and the main current, waders are occasionally very convenient. They are also useful for reaching "vantage points" on boulders in the river and for crossing some of the numerous "kuhls" which take off from the rivers for purposes of irrigation or for the supply of motive power to corn-grinding mills. At certain seasons of the year, especially on the upper reaches, the water is almost icy cold and on this account continual wading becomes uncomfortable.

In addition to the items enumerated above, the following articles should find a place in the angler's equipment:

Fly-box, cast-book, small file, scissors, pliers, penknife and a small pot of vaseline.

*Fishing Shikaries.*—Anglers requiring *shikaris* must employ those registered by the Fisheries Department, and to whom badges have been issued. In addition to carrying the angler's equipment their principal duties are to obtain bait for bottom fishing; bait hooks for bottom fishing; release obstructed tackle (if the water is not too deep or rapid); remove hooks from and kill and carry captured fish. Some of the more experienced are able to attach eyed hooks to gut, mend broken casts and traces and to roughly repair a broken rod joint.

*Clothing.* while fishing, does not come within the scope of this chapter, but it might be mentioned that for trout fishing generally clothes should be selected in accordance with the environment of the river to be fished, and should blend, as nearly as possible, with the natural surroundings of the background.

When taking a rod down after fishing the metal part of the ferrule should be gripped and not the wood. If excessive force is applied to the wood or cane the joint may be dragged out of

the ferrule, twisted out of position, or broken. The ferrules should be kept clean but not greasy. If a lubricant is necessary a little tallow or common soap should be used and any surplus removed with a piece of rag. If the rod is wet after a day's fishing, it should be thoroughly dried and not allowed to remain overnight in a wet bag or cover. If ordinary metal rings are attached they must be kept clean and free from rust or they will ruin the line.

The reel should occasionally be taken to pieces and thoroughly cleaned and oiled. When not in use it should be stored in a leather reel case or selvyt bag. Reels made of aluminium alloys tend to become coated with a whitish oxide after exposure to rain or dampness. This can be removed by drying all the parts and rubbing over with an oiled cloth or selvyt.

Lines should be removed from reels and dried. If a special dryer is not available they can be wound round the back of a chair or simply removed from the reel and allowed to remain in loose coils on a chair or table. Deer fat is a well-known line dressing and its occasional use helps to preserve and prolong the life of a line.

Gut strands, casts and traces should be thoroughly soaked in water before use. When not in use they can be kept fresh and pliable if enclosed in chamois leather covers to which a small quantity of glycerine has been applied.

Eyed hooks should not be allowed to remain in a wet condition or the "eyes" will rust and spoil the gut when again brought into use. Flies, especially in India, should be stored in an insect-proof box or they are liable to be ruined by "woolly bears" or other destructive insects of that type. As an added precaution a little naphthalene may be kept in the fly-box.





Meeting of the Waters—Beas and Parbatti

## CHAPTER VII

### BEST MONTHS FOR FLY FISHING

The fishing season in Kulu commences on the 2nd day of March and extends to the 31st October. From the 1st of November to the 1st of March, both days inclusive, no fish of any species are allowed to be taken except by employees of the Fisheries Department acting under the authority of the head of that Department.

March, April and October are the three best months of the year for fly fishing on the Beas. To these three months may occasionally be added the whole of May and the last two weeks of September. It depends on weather conditions, which regulate the amount of snow water and flood water in the river.

During March and early April the water in the Beas is generally quite clear. Towards the end of April, as the days gradually grow warmer, a certain amount of snow water enters the river, but not in sufficient quantities to spoil fly fishing for the whole of the day. As summer advances and the heat intensifies, snow on the ranges surrounding the valley melts more rapidly and, draining into the head streams and tributaries of

the Beas, the upper reaches of which are well above the snow line, discolours the water to such an extent that fly fishing becomes impossible. Very occasionally, during the summer, there happens a cold spell for several days in succession. This interrupts the continuous flow of snow water and the Beas, for a short period may become fishable with fly. Quick advantage, however, must be taken of this phenomenon.

In addition to discoloration of the river by snow water, the Beas and some of its tributaries are subject to floods during the monsoon season. Rainfall over the whole sub-division is not excessive, but varies considerably in different parts owing to the broken character of the country. It is not altogether unusual, even in the good months, while fishing clear water on the lower reaches to find the river rapidly rising and the water changing colour from gin-clear to muddy-brown, due to a spate higher up the valley. But it does not last for any length of time and occasionally improves the fishing as soon as the water is clear again.

Although the Beas may be unfishable with fly during summer months, some of its tributaries are not closed to this particular form of sport for the whole of the period. The Chakki, Sujain, Phojal and Shirrid in upper Kulu and the Tirthan in Seraj run clear of snow water much more rapidly than the Beas, and are usually fishable with fly for the greater part of the season. The Sarbarri, though it does not clear up so rapidly as the streams mentioned above, can usually be depended upon for fly fishing from August onwards, except during short periods occasioned by rain-water floods. Anglers travelling to Kulu by the Bhabu Pass route might successfully cast a fly on its upper reaches while on their way from Karaon to Sultanpur.

The evening, from 4 o'clock onwards, is generally reputed to be the best period of the day for taking trout on fly, but if fish are in a mood for feeding they can be caught at almost any hour. Not necessarily on brilliantly fine days and on bright water where concealment is impossible, but wherever there is a little natural shade which affords cover from the direct and reflected rays of the sun, and neutralises the artificiality of the proffered bait. Early morning fishing is occasionally successful. The Kulu Valley is enclosed by mountains on all sides and two



or three hours' fishing can generally be obtained before the water becomes too bright.

When the sky is completely overcast fly fishing can, with impunity, be indulged in for the whole of the day, but even on such days it must not be forgotten that fish can also see better in a diffused light than in the bright sunshine. As such days usually presage rain it is advisable to go out prepared for a downpour. Days of intermittent sunshine and shadow, when light clouds deflect the direct rays of the sun, afford perhaps the greatest enjoyment and the most comfortable conditions, climatic and sporting.

Bottom fishing in the reserved area of the Beas is permitted during the period 1st June to 15th September. On all tributaries and *kuhls* (water channels) within the reserved area bottom fishing is entirely prohibited. Outside the reserved area of the Beas and on all tributaries outside the reserved area, bottom fishing is allowed throughout the season. During the months of June, July and August the Beas water is really dirty and worm fishing is practically the only type of fishing which may be indulged in with any success. The water during this period is leaden grey in colour and laden with silt. Even spinning provides very poor sport in comparison with the humble worm when the river is in this condition.

Outside the reserved area, even when the rivers are running perfectly clear, anglers addicted to bottom fishing can generally obtain a good day's sport without adopting the special tackle and special precautions which are recommended for this style of fishing in Great Britain. Naturally, it is as well to keep one's shadow clear of the water as far as possible while fishing with worm, but it is not necessary to use a rod longer than that ordinarily used for fly fishing, nor long casts, nor to cast the bait upstream. There are many deep pools in the Beas from which fish can be taken without these special precautions. More care is necessary on the narrower tributaries which are not so deep as the main river and worm fishing from the tail end of a pool instead of from the side or above it will frequently produce better results. But it is dangerous fishing so far as the loss of tackle is concerned and should only be practised in slow-running water.

As previously mentioned, spinning with artificial bait or spoon is generally more successful during the fly-fishing months than it is in snow water. The most effective periods for this form of sport are when the rivers are clearing after a spate and while the water is still brownish in colour.

*Insect Pests.*—Early in the season, from the middle of March onwards, a small gnat (local name *chhanchu*) can cause a lot of discomfort to anglers. This little pest is specially in evidence at the riverside and attacks the knuckles or joints of the hands and other exposed parts of the body, especially the knees if shorts are being worn. The main discomfort is not in the original sting. Intense irritation continues for several days. The best remedy is to squeeze the poison out of the place affected and apply iodine. (Iodine pencil is useful in this respect.) Bamber oil, rubbed on the hands, is fairly effective against these pestiferous insects.



Waterfall near Rahla

## CHAPTER VIII

### ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE FOR VISITORS

The insistent demand for accommodation in Kulu, beyond that available in dāk bungalows and departmental rest-houses, has gradually broken down the conservative insularity which originally existed in this out-of-the-way valley. In recent years furnished shacks, small hotels, paying-guest establishments and rentable furnished houses have become available in different localities and are, under ordinary conditions, sufficient to meet this demand. There are also dāk bungalows, departmental rest-houses and *serais* at the more important places, but the rules under which they can be occupied do not tend towards a lengthy period of occupation. A list of dāk bungalows, rest-houses and other accommodation available in Kulu is given in Appendix "A."

Dāk bungalows exist for the use of travellers and no permission is necessary for their occupation when accommodation is available. Government servants on duty, who are usually entitled to free accommodation in departmental rest-houses, must pay the prescribed charges at dāk bungalows the same as an ordinary traveller, unless exempted under any special ruling. Departmental rest-houses are primarily intended for the use of Government officers travelling on Government duty. Officers in charge of them will, however, issue permits of occupation to other suitable applicants when they are not required for the use of touring officers. In times of emergency it is not always possible for a Government officer to give previous notice of his intention to tour and, irrespective of any permits that may have been issued to private applicants, he has the prior right of occupation.

Commencing from the lower end of the Kulu sub-division the first place near which trout fishing is likely to be obtained is Larji, about two miles from Aut. Near Larji is the junction of the Sainj and Tirthan tributaries of the Beas. There is a civil rest-house at Larji containing two big bedrooms. Proceeding up the Tirthan the first rest-house is at Banjar, a distance of 12 miles from Larji. This is a Public Works Department rest-house which comprises one living and two bedrooms. There is also a small (Forest Department) rest-house at Bandal, about five miles from Banjar. Beyond that point, accommodation within easy reach of the Tirthan is not available.

The Sainj is the next trout river, the road along which also commences from Larji. The first and only stage from that point is to Sainja where there is another Forest rest-house. Beyond Sainja following the river, there are no more rest-houses.

Returning to the main road at Aut, Bajaura is the next stage. There is a civil rest-house at Bajaura, but the angler, en route to Kulu, is not recommended to spend any time there. During the rains mahseer may occasionally be caught in the Beas near-by, but as there are many better places in the Province for this kind of sport it is scarcely worth-while wasting time and energy on doubtful prospects within the borders of Kulu.



From the motor road the taking-off point for the Parbatti Valley is at Bhuntar, two miles above Bajaura. Cross the Duff-Dunbar bridge to Bhuin where there is a commodious Forest rest-house. All rest-houses in the Parbatti Valley belong to the Forest Department. The first stage is to Jari, 13 miles, where the rest-house is on a hillside, well above the river. The second stage is Kasol, six miles beyond Jari. Here is one of the most pleasantly situated rest-houses of the whole Sub-division and one that affords easy access to some good sport, both fishing and shooting. Kasol is about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles short of Manikarn, famous for its hot springs. There is no rest-house at Manikarn and probably no fishing higher up the valley.

Sultanpur is about seven miles from Bhuntar along the main road. There are two rest-houses at Sultanpur—Civil and Forest Departments—as well as a dâk bungalow containing four bedrooms. Sultanpur is not a good fishing centre except for the Sarbarri and the unreserved part of the Beas. It is also inclined to be somewhat hot from the beginning of May until the end of August.

The reserved fishing area on the Beas commences from mile  $3\frac{1}{2}$  above Sultanpur and from this point up to Manali, good sport is usually obtainable. Between Sultanpur and Katrain are the Bundrole, Aramgarh, Raison and Dobi estates, chiefly devoted to fruit culture. Accommodation for paying guests is available at "Mayflower Hotel," Aramgarh, and at "The Shacks," Raison. At Katrain, 12 miles from Sultanpur and in the centre of the Valley, there is a Civil Department rest-house. In addition there is "River-view" Hotel which caters for paying guests; furnished rooms and cottages at "Krishna Nivas," "Tysonia," "Tysonia Annexe" and "Waltonia." A mile beyond Katrain, at Patli-kuhl, near the mouth of the Sujain, is another furnished cottage, "Dixie Cot." Further along, near Baragraon, still another small furnished cottage can be rented. The vicinity of Katrain is a good fishing centre as, in addition to the Beas, it is within easy walking distance of the Sujain and Phojal tributaries. At Raison there is a small golf course and a swimming pool, while tennis is available at Aramgarh, Raison and Katrain.

Naggar is on the opposite bank of the river to Katrain, at a higher elevation. A commodious Civil rest-house is located

in Naggar Castle. There are also two furnished houses usually available for rent, "The Manor" and "The Cottage." Naggar has a glorious climate but, being about a thousand feet above the river, is not an ideal residential locality for anglers with short-term licenses. It is, however, within easy reach of the Chhaki. There is a mule road to Naggar and Manali on the left bank of the river but, with the exception of the first few miles from Sultanpur, it runs well up on the hillside and the river is not nearly so accessible as it is from the right bank.

Katraia to Manali by motor road on the right bank of the river is 11 miles with good fishing nearly the whole distance. At Manali there is a Civil rest-house. There are also two or three paying-guest establishments as well as a number of furnished cottages which can be rented by the month or season. There is another rest-house six miles beyond Manali, but it is too far away from fishable parts of the river to be of any use to anglers.

Rest-houses on the main routes are frequently occupied during the summer months and permits for their occupation by non-officials should be applied for well in advance. The following officers in the Kulu sub-division are authorised to grant these permits:

*Civil rest-houses—*

Sub-Divisional Officer (Civil), Kulu.

*Public Works Department rest-houses—*

Sub-Divisional Officer (P. W. D.), Kulu.

*Forest Department rest-houses (in Kulu)—*

Divisional Forest Officer, Kulu.

*Forest Department rest-houses (in Seraj)—*

Divisional Forest Officer, Seraj (at Kulu).

Dāk bungalows are fully furnished and a staff of servants is employed to cater for visitors. Khansamahs are also employed at the Katraia and Manali Civil rest-houses. Other Civil, Public Works and Forest Department rest-houses have *chaukidars* only and visitors must arrange for the purchase and cooking of their own food. Departmental rest-houses are mostly equipped with limited supplies of cooking utensils, crockery, cutlery and lamps, but it is always advisable to carry along one's own "Hurricane" lamps as well as a supply of provisions,

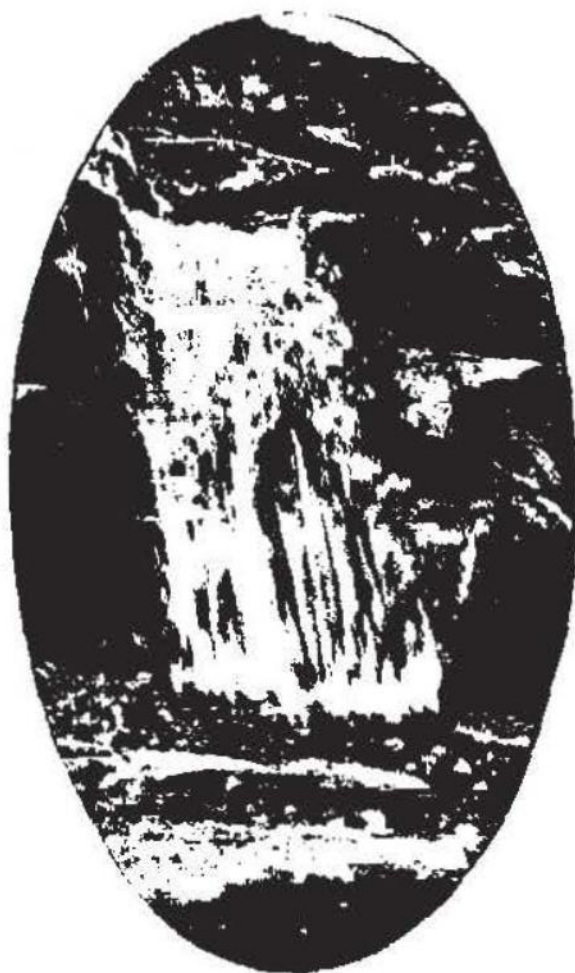
oil, etc. Sweepers are usually available at Public Works and Civil rest-houses, but not at those belonging to the Forest Department.

Rules regarding the occupation of dāk bungalows and rest-houses, which are given in detail in Appendix "C," should be strictly observed. As previously stated, departmental rest-houses are primarily for the use of Government touring officers and any breach of rules by non-officials to whom permits of occupation have been granted may lead to the withdrawal of future concessions. The officers authorised to grant permits have the authority to withdraw them in cases where the rules are neglected or abused. The names and addresses of all travellers should be legibly written in the registers maintained for this purpose. Breakages of crockery or damage to rest-house equipment should be reported in the same register and paid for before leaving, or at the nearest tehsil headquarters. Payment for occupation, and for stores supplied by stage contractors, etc., should not be left to servants, but should be paid personally by the traveller to whom the permit has been issued.

Camping in Kulu affords a very enjoyable method of spending a holiday in that valley, and if suitable accommodation cannot otherwise be arranged, tent life provides a pleasant alternative especially during the months of April, May, September and October. Anglers who desire proximity to the rivers and freedom of movement on different fishing reaches will find that a small tent ensures the necessary mobility and greater range of territory. Tents and camp furniture are not easily available at short notice in Kulu and prospective campers should make arrangements beforehand or bring their own camp equipment.

A small tent is also, at times, a great convenience to the traveller making use of dāk bungalows and rest-houses as, under the staging bungalow rules, no person can claim shelter as a right for more than 24 hours. After the expiration of that period the room must be vacated if required by other travellers. Tents can be pitched in the enclosure of a staging bungalow and are always handy for sleeping accommodation in case of emergency.





Head Waters of Rikki Beas

## CHAPTER IX

### GENERAL INFORMATION

Local produce, such as milk, eggs, chickens, potatoes, flour (*ata*), *ghi*, charcoal, firewood, grain, grass, etc., is obtainable at the more important stages in Kulu like Larji, Banjar, Bajaura, Bhuin, Sultanpur, Katrain, Naggar and Manali. Kerosine oil can also usually be purchased. Bread can be obtained in Sultanpur, Raison, Katrain and Manali. Beef is unobtainable. Mutton can be purchased in Sultanpur (Akhara Bazaar), Raison, Katrain and Manali. At certain seasons vegetables are somewhat scarce as they are mostly imported, but two or three varieties can usually be purchased in Sultanpur. Residents of Kulu only grow sufficient for their own requirements. European stores, tinned provisions, etc., are available in Sultanpur, and in lesser variety at Katrain and Manali. Liquor (whisky, beer, etc.) can be obtained in Sultanpur, Katrain and Manali.



Flies abound in most localities and, during the summer months, are a nuisance. All food and drink should be protected from them. Beaded muslin covers are very useful for this purpose. At most of the hotels and paying-guests establishments all doors and windows are protected by chicks or wire gauze.

Visitors to Kulu travelling by other routes than the motor road should take a cook and sweeper, as most of the rest-houses *en route* have *chaukidars* only. This also applies to the less frequented and out-of-the-way routes within the Kulu sub-division. A few tinned provisions, biscuits, etc., should invariably be carried to meet any emergency that might arise from the scarcity of local produce. Unless the traveller is prepared to eat *chapatties* as a substitute for bread at rest-houses, a cook who can bake bread or scones in addition to his ordinary culinary duties, is a decided acquisition.

Away from the motor road mules or pack ponies are the best means of transport. To avoid delay and inconvenience arrangements for their hire should be made some days in advance. Coolie transport is more expensive and less satisfactory. Even when easily obtainable transport coolies are not habituated to over-cleanliness and are somewhat careless when dumping their respective loads at the frequent halts indulged in between stages. Riding ponies, at a somewhat higher rate than pack ponies and mules, can usually be arranged through the transport contractors at Sultanpur, Katrain and Manali.

On walking tours a rucksack affords the most convenient method of carrying waterproof, sandwiches, etc. If a rucksack forms no part of the traveller's equipment a coolie should be engaged to carry a tiffin basket and other impedimenta likely to be required on the road.

Waterproofs are very necessary. The day's march may commence under a cloudless sky, but, like most mountainous districts, Kulu is subject to sudden atmospheric changes and the march may be interrupted or end in a copious downpour of rain. If ahead of transport the arrival at a halting place in wet clothing and with no immediate prospect of a change, is

anything but cheerful. Small tarpaulins or pieces of water-proofed canvas are very useful for the protection of baggage under transport by mules or coolies.

A big stock of clothing for use in Kulu is not necessary. The services of *dhobies* are obtainable at places on the main route like Sultanpur, Raison, Katrain and Manali. Khaki or muzari cloth shirts and shorts comprise the most comfortable and convenient kit at lower elevations during the summer months, but early and late in the season and at higher elevations warmer clothing is necessary. Muzari cloth also provides a suitable kit for anglers as it does not stand out too prominently against the natural surroundings. In certain localities thorn bushes grow in profusion along the banks of the rivers and rough, loosely-woven cloth, which has a special attraction for thorns, should be avoided. There is also a lot of spear grass near the rivers which in the autumn sheds its prickles. At this season of the year, while fishing, boots and putties are preferable to shoes, shorts and woollen stockings.

There is a Government hospital at Kulu (Sultanpur). It is picturesquely situated on the edge of the *maidan* and caters for the medical requirements of a fairly large population in Sultanpur and at the lower end of the Valley. It has seen considerable improvement in recent years and the erection of additional wards, which were opened in 1939, provides facilities for the accommodation of many more indoor patients. The Lady Willingdon hospital is located at Manali and serves a large area at the head of the Valley. It is run under the auspices of the Kangra branch of the Canadian Mission, but is directly controlled by two European doctors. This hospital, in which Lady Willingdon and the late Mr. R. E. Grant-Govan took particular interest, was opened by Her Excellency in 1935. Attached to the hospital a private ward for European patients has recently been added. There are also Civil Dispensaries, under the control of Sub-Assistant Surgeons at Naggar, Jari and other districts of the Kulu Sub-division.

Other Government institutions in Kulu are the Industrial School at Sultanpur and the Bee and Poultry Farms at Katrain. The primary function of the Industrial School is to impart to boys of the district practical and technical instruction in the

art of weaving. A varied selection of Kulu cloth, woven in up-to-date patterns by advanced pupils of the school, is available for sale to the public at very reasonable rates. The Bee and Poultry farms are located at "Waltonia," Katrain, about half-a-mile from the main road. All the above institutions are well worth a visit.

With the exception of the Post Office Savings Bank there are no banking facilities in Kulu and visitors to the Valley should take with them sufficient cash for all requirements or arrange with their bankers for remittances by post.

## APPENDIX "A"

### ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE FOR VISITORS TO KULU

Locality	Miles	Elevation	Accommodation available	REMARKS
Kulu (Sultanpur) ..	..	Feet 4,000	D&k Bungalow, Civil and Forest Department Rest-houses, <i>Serai</i> .	
Raison ..	8	4,700	Mayflower Hotel, Aramgarh, and "The Shacks," Raison.	
Katrai ..	12	4,800	Civil Rest-house, "Riverview" Hotel. Several furnished houses including "Tysonia" with annexe; "Waltonia" and "Krishna Nivas."	
Patli-kuhl ..	13	4,800	Furnished cottage, "Dixie Cot."	
Naggar ..	14	5,800	Civil Rest-house; <i>Serai</i> ; two furnished houses, "The Manor" and "The Cottage."	On the opposite side of the river to Katrai, and 1,000 feet higher.
Baragraon ..	15	4,800	Furnished cottage.	
Manali ..	23	6,000	Civil and Forest Department rest-houses; several paying-guest establishments and several furnished houses for rent.	

## APPENDIX "B"

### ROUTES AND REST-HOUSES

ROUTE "A"—PATHANKOT TO KULU (MANALI) BY MOTOR ROAD---198 MILES

Stage	Miles	Approx. Elevation	Dâk Bungalows and Rest-houses	Officers to whom appli- cation for permits should be addressed	REMARKS
		Feet			
Pathankot ..	..	..	Dâk Bungalow; N. W. Railway Refresh- ment Rooms and Waiting Rooms.	Permit not necessary.	
Shahpur ..	40	2,400	Dâk Bungalow .. ..	Ditto.	
Palampur ..	32	4,100	Dâk Bungalow .. .. P. W. D. Rest-house .. ..	Ditto. Executive Engineer, Dharm- sala.	
Baijnath ..	10	4,180	Dâk Bungalow .. ..	Permit not necessary.	
Jogindernaggar ..	15	3,880	Mandi State Dâk Bungalow .. .. P.W.D. (Hydro-Electric) Rest-house	Ditto. Resident Engineer, Jogindernaggar.	
Mandi City ..	35	2,480	Mandi State Dâk Bungalow ..	Permit not necessary.	
Kulu (Sultanpur) ..	43	4,000	Dâk Bungalow .. .. Forest Rest-house .. .. Civil Rest-house .. ..	Permit not necessary. Divl. Forest Officer, Kulu. Assistant Commissioner, Kulu.	
Katrai ..	12	4,800	Ditto .. ..	Ditto.	
Manali ..	11	6,000	Ditto .. .. Forest Rest-house .. ..	Ditto. Divisional Forest Officer, Kulu.	
	198				

ROUTE "B"—SIMLA TO KULU *via* JALORI PASS—122 MILES

Stage	Miles	Approx. Elevation	Dāk Bungalows and Rest-houses	Officers to whom applica- tion for permits should be addressed	REMARKS
Simla	..	Feet 7,220	Hotels		
Phagu	..	7,700	Dāk Bungalow .. ..	} Permit not necessary.	
Theog	..	7,700	Ditto. .. ..		
Mathiana	..	8,000	Ditto. .. ..		
Narkanda	..	8,800	Ditto. .. ..		
Luhri	..	2,600	Civil Rest-house .. ..	Deputy Commissioner, Simla	
Ani	..	4,000	Ditto .. ..	} Assistant Commissioner, Kulu.	Between Kha- nag and Shoja cross Jalori Pass, 10,000 feet. Open from about beginning of May.
Khanag	..	8,300	Ditto .. ..		
Shoja	..	8,800	Ditto .. ..		
Banjar	..	5,000	P. W. D. Rest-house .. ..	Sub-Divisional Officer, P. W. D., Kulu.	
Larji	..	3,200	Civil Rest-house .. ..	Asst. Commissioner, Kulu.	
Bajoura	..	3,600	Ditto. .. ..	Ditto.	
Kulu	..	4,000	Dāk Bungalow, etc. .. ..	..	

ROUTE "C"—SIMLA TO KULU *via* KOTGARH, RAMPUR AND BASLEO PASS  
[Simla to Narkanda as Route "B"]

Stage	Miles	Approx. Elevation	Dâk Bungalow and Rest-houses			Officers to whom applica- tions for permits should be addressed	REMARKS
Narkanda ..	..	Feet 8,800	Dâk Bungalow ..	..	..	Permit not necessary.	
Kotgarh ..	10	..	Ditto. ..	..	..	Ditto.	
Nirit ..	10	..	P. W. D. Rest-house ..	..	..	Executive Engineer, Simla.	
Rampur ..	13	3,300	Ditto. ..	..	..	Ditto.	
Arsu ..	8	5,800	Ditto ..	..	..	S.D.O., P.W.D., Kulu.	
Sarahan ..	8	8,000	Civil Rest-house ..	..	..	Asst. Commissioner, Kulu.	Between Sara- han and Bathad cross Basleo Pass, 10,750 feet. Open from about begin- ning of May.
Bathad ..	8	6,000	P. W. D. Rest-house ..	..	..	S. D. O., P. W. D., Kulu.	
Banjar ..	11	5,000	Ditto ..	..	..	Ditto.	

(Onward to Kulu as in Route "B.")

ROUTE "D"—KULU TO LINGTI (KASHMIR STATE BOUNDARY) *via* ROHTANG AND BARALACHA PASSES.  
[Kulu to Manali as Route "A"]

Stage	Miles	Approx. Elevation	Dâk Bungalows and Rest-houses	Officers to whom applica- tions for permits should be addressed	REMARKS
Manali	..	Feet 6,000	Civil Rest-house .. ..	Asst. Commissioner, Kulu.	
Kothi	7	8,500	P. W. D., Rest-house .. ..	} S.D.O., P.W.D., Kulu.	Between Ko- thi and Khoksar cross Rohtang Pass, 13,400 feet. Open about middle of May.
Khoksar	13	10,400	Ditto. .. ..		
Sissu	8	10,100	Ditto .. ..		
Gondhla	8	10,300	Ditto .. ..		
Kyelang	10	10,400	Ditto .. ..		
Jispa	13	10,500	Ditto .. ..		
Patseo	11	12,500	Ditto .. ..	} Permit not necessary.	Between Zing- zingbar and Kinlung cross Bara- lacha Pass, 16,200 feet.
Zingzingbar	5	14,000	Serai .. ..		
Kinlung	12	14,000	.. ..		
Lingti	17	14,000	Small serai .. ..		

CS

From Lingti to Leh (Ladakh) is 11 marches. From Patseo onwards, either to Spiti or Ladakh, tents and camp equipment are necessary. (At Zanskar Chu, just north of Jispa, is an "Inner Line" which cannot be crossed by Europeans, not travelling on duty, without a permit, in writing, from the Deputy Commissioner, Kangra.)



ROUTE "E"—KULU TO MANIKARN AND PULGA—PARBATTI VALLEY.

Stage	Miles	Approx. Elevation	Dâk Bungalows and Rest-houses	Officers to whom applica- tions for permits should be addressed	REMARKS
Kulu (Sultanpur) ..	..	Feet 4,000	Dâk Bungalow, etc. .. ..		
Bhuin ..	7	3,700	Forest Rest-house .. ..	Divisional Forest Officer, Kulu.	
Jari ..	13½	5,000	Ditto .. ..	Ditto	
Kasol ..	5	5,300	Ditto .. ..	Ditto	
Manikarn ..	2½	5,700	No Rest-house .. ..	..	Hot springs.
Pulga ..	9½	7,000	Forest Rest-house .. ..	Divisional Forest Officer, Kulu.	

ROUTE "F"—JOGINDERNAGGAR TO KULU *via* THE BHABU PASS.

Stage	Miles	Approx. Elevation	Dâk Bungalows and Rest-houses	Officers to whom applica- tions for permits should be addressed	REMARKS
Jogindernaggar ..	..	Feet 3,880	Mandi State Dâk Bungalow	Permit not necessary	
Jhatingri ..	11	6,600	Ditto .. ..	State Engineer, Mandi.	Seven days' notice to be given..
Sil Bhadwani ..	12	6,000	Mandi State Forest Rest-house ..	Conservator of Forests, Mandi State.	} Cross Bhabu Pass, 9,480 feet.
Karaon ..	12	6,400	Kulu Civil Rest-house .. ..	Asst. Commissioner, Kulu.	
Kulu (Sultanpur) ..	8	4,000	Dâk Bungalow, etc. .. ..		

ROUTE "G"—DRANG (OR MANDI) TO KULU *via* THE DULCHI PASS

Stage	Miles	Approx. Elevation	Dâk Bungalows and Rest-houses	Officers to whom applica- tions for permits should be addressed	REMARKS
Drang ..	..	Feet 4,000	Mandi State Forest Rest-house ..	Conservator of Forests, Mandi State.	
Kataula ..	14	3,960	Ditto .. ..	Ditto.	} Cross Dulchi Pass 6,760 feet.
Bajaura ..	17	3,600	Kulu Civil Rest-house .. ..	Asst. Commissioner, Kulu.	
Kulu (Sultanpur) ..	9	4,000	Dâk Bungalow, etc. .. ..		

## APPENDIX "C"

## STAGING BUNGALOW RULES, PUNJAB.\*

All travellers, European or Indian, can claim shelter for 24 hours in a staging bungalow. The scale of fees (inclusive of the services of a cook, *bhisthi* and sweeper, but not of light, fire or *punkhas*, except when special rates are fixed) is as follows:

For the first 24 hours (subject to the reduction prescribed in Rule 2).	Rs.	a.	p.
	1	8	0
For each succeeding 24 hours or part of 24 hours	1	0	0

*Note.*—Supplementary rules special to certain staging bungalows in the Simla Hills and the Kangra District, which includes Kulu and Lahoul, are given below:

2. If a traveller remains not more than three hours and uses only the dining room or verandah, with the use, not exclusive to other travellers, of a bedroom or bathroom, the charge will be 4 annas only. If reserving a bedroom or bathroom for his exclusive use, the charge will be 8 annas.

3. No charge will be made for children under 14 years of age.

4. European servants travelling with ladies will be charged at half rates. Indian servants will not be charged for unless they occupy a room in the bungalow.

5. European or Indian servants travelling with children, without their master or mistress, will be charged at full rates.

6. Should it be necessary, owing to want of accommodation, for two or more persons to occupy the same room or for any traveller to sleep in a dressing-room or verandah, half rates only (subject to a minimum of 12 annas) will be charged for each person:

7. Priority of arrival gives no exclusive right of occupancy to any traveller or party of travellers. When the number of travellers makes it necessary, half the accommodation of the bungalow will be allotted to ladies.

8. A traveller cannot claim shelter in a staging bungalow for more than 24 hours unless specially authorized to remain by the Commissioner of the Division. After the expiration of that time he must leave if required to do so by other travellers.

9. Travellers are required on arrival at a staging bungalow to enter their names, full address and hour of arrival in the book which will be brought to them for this purpose.

10. Travellers are required, previous to their departure, to enter in the Travellers' Book the amount of the stated fees paid by them in accordance with these rules, noting the time of their departure.

11. Travellers pitching tents in the enclosure of a staging bungalow, and not using the bungalow, will pay eight annas a day for each tent. Travellers using the bungalow and paying the regular fees will not be charged for tents.

12. A fee of eight annas a day is to be paid for every wheeled vehicle, palanquin, horse, mule or other animal used for riding or driving and for every tent, box or other property which is left in the compound of a staging bungalow after the departure of the owner.

13. Every person who obtains accommodation at a staging bungalow must pay the prescribed fees whether travelling on duty or not.

14. The *khidmatgar* of the bungalow will, if required, cook provision furnished by travellers. Those who employ him to supply food must, unless terms have been specially agreed upon, pay according to the tariff hung up in the rooms.

15. Whoever loses, breaks, removes or injures any furniture or other property belonging to the bungalow will pay at the rates specified in the list kept by the servants in charge of the bungalow.

16. *Punkhas* and *tattis* are provided for each staging bungalow (where necessary) in the hot season. Men employed on them must be paid by the travellers for whom they are required.

17. All accounts should be settled *daily*.

#### SPECIAL RULE FOR DAK BUNGALOWS IN THE KANGRA DISTRICT (INCLUDING THE KULU SUB-DIVISION)

When a room in any of the dak bungalows in the Kangra District, including the Kulu sub-Division, is occupied for a period exceeding 72 hours, double the ordinary rate prescribed by Rule 1 of the Staging Bungalow Rules will be charged.

*N.B.*—This rule does not apply to Government servants travelling on duty.

#### REVISED RULES REGULATING THE PROVISION OF TRANSPORT AND SUPPLIES FOR OFFICERS OF GOVERNMENT AND OTHERS TRAVELLING IN THE KULU VALLEY, LAHOUL AND SPITI

1. Travellers who are not Government Officers touring on duty are not entitled to, and should not rely on, the assistance of officials, *lamabardars* or Government supply contractors for transport or supplies, but should make their own arrangements. The *Tahsildar* at Kulu and the *Naib-tahsildar*, Banjar, on receiving applications for assistance from travellers who are not Government servants, will put them in touch with contractors if they require mule or pony transport; but are not permitted to afford any assistance whatever in the matter of cooly transport.

2. There are supply contractors appointed by Government at the places italicized in Schedule "A." They are bound to supply Government servants, travelling on duty, with the usual supplies and with transport and have been instructed to give assistance to other travellers, *but as a matter of courtesy only and not of right.*

3. Coolies are ordinarily obtainable, except during the harvesting months (15th May to 30th June and 1st October to 15th November), if sufficient notice is given to the supply contractors at any of the places italicized in Schedule "A" and at other places to the village *lamabardars*. Mule or pony transport is procurable regularly at Sultanpur (Kulu) and sometimes at Bhuntar, eight miles below Kulu.

4. Officers travelling on duty who apply for official help will be supplied only with mule or pony transport on the main routes, with the exception of:

(a) Spiti (across Hampta Pass); (b) Bhuin to Panihar.  
Coolies will be supplied for these routes and others which are impracticable for mules and ponies.

5. The maximum number of coolies that may be supplied:  
1st Class Officer, with tents, 20; without tents, 12.  
2nd Class Officer, with tents, 10; without tents, 6.

6. Schedule "A" gives the lengths of stages and rates for mule or pony transport. For routes where coolies are required, except the Hampta route to Spiti, the rate is one anna per mile per coolie, with a minimum of eight annas per day per coolie. If a pass over 8,000 feet has to be crossed, the charges for the day or days for crossing are 50 per cent. above these rates. Wages of coolies plus a commission of six pies per coolie per diem are payable in advance to the contractor if the coolies are arranged through him.

7. During the harvesting months (15th May to 30th June and 1st October to 15th November), the ordinary coolie rates given in Rule 5 will be enhanced by 50 per cent.

8. Coolies to Spiti are not to be changed at intermediate stages. For every two coolies carrying luggage, wood or grass, an extra coolie must be taken to carry food for himself and the other two. Wages at the rate of Rs. 8 *plus* a commission of 6 annas per coolie are payable in advance to the *lambardar* or the contractor if the coolies are arranged through him.

9. Special permission from the Deputy Commissioner, Kangra, at Dharmsala, is necessary to visit Spiti where supplies and transport are difficult to obtain. Travellers must make their own arrangements for supplies and transport, but mule transport, provided the route is over the Baralacha Pass, can usually be obtained at Kulu if one month's notice is given to the contractor at Sultanpur.

10. The maximum coolie load is 26 seers, but coolies travelling over a pass over 8,000 feet high should not be required to take over 24 seers.

11. Not less than 10 clear days' notice must be given to the *Tahsildar*, Kulu, for Kulu, to the *Naib-tahsildar*, Banjar, for Seraj, and one month's notice to the Sub-Divisional Officer, Kulu, for Lahoul, for the transport needed. The date and stage where the transport is required and the number of animals and coolies should be given in writing.

12. Every coolie who has been sent for under these rules at the request of a traveller, whether official or non-official, and has not been employed, will be paid at half rates.

13. As mentioned in Rule 2, travellers are ordinarily supplied at the places italicized in Schedule "A" by the supply contractor appointed by Government with locally obtainable commodities such as fowls, eggs, milk, fuel and grass. In each case payment must be made promptly to the supply contractor.

14. At places other than those italicized in Schedule "A," such supplies will ordinarily be procured by the *lambardar* as a matter of courtesy and on prompt payment. It is only a Government officer touring on duty who can demand as of right that a *lambardar* shall provide supplies.

15. The Sub-Divisional Officer, Kulu, after consultation with committees at *tahsil* headquarters and the Wazir of Lahoul, will fix market rates for articles supplied at stages at least twice a year and oftener if there is a large fluctuation in prices.

#### MANDI STATE DAK BUNGALOW RULES.

1. There are public dak bungalows at the following places at each of which a Khansamah and a Sweeper are maintained by the State:

(a) Jogindernagar; (b) Mandi; (c) Jhatingri.

2. Travellers can obtain shelter for 24 hours in a dak bungalow. The scale of fees (inclusive of the services of a cook, sweeper, but not of light, fire, or fans) is as follows:

	Rs.	a.	p.
(a) For the first 24 hours or part of 24 hours (subject to the reduction prescribed in item 'c' .. .. .)	1	8	0
Special rooms .. .. .	2	0	0
(b) For each succeeding 24 hours, or part of 24 hours .. .. .	1	0	0
Special rooms .. .. .	1	8	0
(c) Travellers staying in the bungalow 3 hours or less .. .. .	0	8	0
(d) Occupying the garage 24 hours, or part thereof .. .. .	0	8	0

3. No charges will be made for children under 14 years of age, but they will not be permitted to occupy a separate room.

4. Should it be necessary, for want of accommodation, for two or more persons to occupy the same room or for any traveller to sleep in a dressing room or a verandah, half rates only will be charged for each person. Half rates for each person will also be charged if a married couple occupies one room.

5. Priority of arrival gives no exclusive right of occupancy to any traveller or party of travellers.

6. A traveller cannot claim shelter for more than 24 hours. After the expiration of that time he must leave, if required to do so by other travellers, except in the case of State guests.

7. Travellers are required to enter their names and addresses in full, also hour of arrival and departure in the dak bungalow book, along with the amount paid as rent.

8. Punjab Government officials, travelling on duty, are exempted from paying rent at the Mandi dak bungalow, provided they stay in the portion specially reserved for the Punjab Public Works Department.

9. Servants are not allowed to sleep in the dak bungalows. They should put up in the Serai or servants' quarters.

10. Whoever loses, breaks, or damages any furniture or other property belonging to any bungalow must pay the value of the article or of the repairs, as the case may be. Prices are shown in the list kept by the Khansamah or Chowkidar.

11. Charges for electric light will be annas 6 per suite for each 24 hours, or part thereof.

12. Where electric fans are available the charge will be annas 8 for each 24 hours or part thereof.

13. Hot baths will be supplied at four annas each.

*Note.*—1. The above rules apply to all persons except those who are specially exempted by the Durbar (His Highness's Government).

2. As Jhatingri is off the main road, seven days' notice must be given for arrangements to be made for food, etc.

3. Special rooms are rooms Nos. 1 and 2 at Mandi and room No. 1 at Jogindernagar.



# SCHEDULE "A"

STAGES.—The rate shown in the following table is for the hire per mule or pony, when two or more mules or ponies are engaged. The rates for a single mule or pony are 40 per cent. higher.

From	To	Miles	Rate Rs. a. p.	From	To	Miles	Rate Rs. a. p.
Sultanpur (Kulu)	Katraon	12	1 4 0	Khanag	Chawai	10	
Katraon	Manali	11	1 4 0	Chawai	Dalash	7	
Sultanpur (Kulu)	Naggar	14	1 4 0	Dalash	Luhri	7	
Naggar	Manali	12	1 4 0	Do	Ani	7	1 4 0
Manali	Kothi	6½	1 4 0	Do	Nithar	11	
Kothi	Khoksar	13	1 12 0	Nithar	Nirmand	10	
Khoksar	Sissu	9	1 4 0	Nirmand	Arsu	8	
Sissu	Gondla	7½	1 4 0		III		
Gondla	Kyelang	10½	1 4 0	Banjar	Bathad	12	1 4 0
Kyelang	Jispa	13	1 4 0	Bathad	Sarahan	11	1 4 0
Jispa	Patseo	10½	1 4 0	Sarahan	Arsu	9	1 4 0
Patseo	Zing Zingbar	6	1 4 0	Arsu	Rampur	11½	1 4 0
Zing Zingbar	Kinlung	13	1 4 0		IV		
Kinlung	Lingti (Bridge)	17	1 4 0	Sultanpur (Kulu)	Kaisdhar	14	1 4 0
	II			Do	Nagni	9	1 4 0
Sultanpur (Kulu)	Karaon	8	1 4 0	Do	Bhuin	7	1 4 0
Karaon	Sihl Bhidwani	12	1 12 0	Bhuin	Jari	13	1 8 0
Sultanpur (Kulu)	Bajaura	9	1 4 0	Jari	Kasol	6	1 4 0
Bajaura	Kataula	16	*2 8 0	Kasol	Pulga†	11	1 4 0
Do	Larji	12	1 4 0	Bhuin	Garsa	9	1 4 0
Larji	Banjar	12	1 4 0	Garsa	Bhalan	†6	
Banjar	Jibhi	5	0 10 0	Bhalan	Sainja	†8	
Jibhi	Shoja	5	0 10 0	Sainja	Larji	10	1 4 0
Shoja	Khanag	7	1 4 0	Do	Panihar	†10	
Khanag	Ani	9	1 4 0	Panihar	Banjar	†12	
Ani	Luhri	12	1 4 0				

Note (a).—Stages where there are contractors appointed by Government are printed in *italics*.

Note (b).—There are shop-keepers who supply grain, *ata*, ghee, etc., at the stages on the following main roads:

- (1) Luhri to Kothi *via* Sultanpur and Katrain or Naggar; (2) Bajaura to Kataula (Dulchi Pass); (3) Sultanpur to Sihl Bhidwani *via* Karaon (Bhabbu Pass); (4) Bhuin to Pulga; (5) Between Rampur and Banjar and at Kyelang in Lahoul.

\* Counts as two stages for all transport.

† Impracticable for mules.

‡ The contractor at Pulga works for eight months—April to November.

## APPENDIX "D"

**RULES UNDER THE PUNJAB FISHERIES ACT (ACT II OF 1914) AS AMENDED BY SUBSEQUENT PUNJAB GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATIONS OF VARIOUS DATES, RELATING TO THE KULU SUB-DIVISION**

**NOTIFICATION NO. 1848-D., DATED THE 9TH MAY 1925, PART E**

**Fishing in the Waters of the Beas River and its Tributaries from the source of the Beas to the milestone "Kulu 3|1" near Washing Bihal, the Sainj River and its Tributaries, and the Tirthan River and its Tributaries from and above Manglour Bridge**

1. No person shall fish in the waters of the Beas River and its tributaries from the source of the Beas to the milestone "Kulu 3|1" near Washing Bihal, Sainj River and its tributaries, and the Tirthan River and its tributaries from and above Manglour Bridge; the Sarbarri river and its tributaries, in so far as they are situated within the jurisdiction of the Sub-Divisional Officer, Kulu, except under an "Angling Licence" to be granted by the Sub-Divisional Officer, Kulu, or by the Game Warden, Punjab, who is authorised to determine the number of licences to be granted at any one time.

Provided that the holder of a licence from the Mandi Durbar entitling him to fish in any part of any stream, which forms the boundary between British and Mandi State territory, shall be deemed to be a holder of such licence under these rules as entitles him to fish in the reaches of the said stream which forms the boundary as aforesaid and shall be bound by all the conditions of such licence.

1-A. The waters named in Rule 1 are divided into ten reaches as follows:

*Reach I.*—From Baragraon on the Sujain Nala to junction of Sujain Nala with Beas River and thence to the Nagar Bridge on Right Bank.

*Reach II.*—From and including the Chakki Nal to the Nagar Bridge on Left Bank.

*Reach III.*—From Nagar Bridge to just above and including the junction with the Phojar Nal on the Right Bank.

*Reach IV.*—From Nagar Bridge to the junction of Nashal Nal on the Left Bank.

*Reach V.*—From and including the junction of the Phojar Nal to Raison Bridge on Right Bank.

*Reach VI.*—From Nashal Nal to Raison Bridge on Left Bank.

*Reach VII.*—From Raison Bridge to Ghartanni (Bundrol) Nal on Right Bank.

*Reach VIII.*—From Raison Bridge to Kais Nal on Left Bank.

*Reach IX.*—From Ghartanni Nal to milestone "Kulu 3|1" near Washing Bihal Bridge on Right Bank.

*Reach X.*—From Kais Nal to opposite milestone "Kulu 3|1" near Washing Bihal Bridge on Left Bank.

The Sub-Divisional Officer, Kulu, or the Game Warden, Punjab, will, if necessary, define on the licence, the reaches in which and the period for which a licensee is permitted to fish on each reach.

Fishing on each reach will then be limited to one week at a time; a licensee must move on to the next vacant reach if required to do so at

the end of that period. The residents of Kulu, who are in possession of a season licence, may, however, continue to fish on the reach they have applied for for the whole season.

*N. B.—This rule will not be enforced unless, in the opinion of the Game Warden, Punjab, in consultation with the Sub-Divisional Officer, Kulu, it is found necessary to enforce it on account of overcrowding.*

2. The charges for a licence shall be:

	single	family
For the season ..	60	75 0 0
For the month ..	25	30 0 0
For ten days or less ..	10	12 8 0
For a day ..	2	..

"Family" includes husband, wife and children only in any combination not exceeding two whose names must be entered on the licence. No licence is transferable.

Provided that the licensee's children below the age of 16 may fish without a licence by any of the methods permitted under the rules contained in this part.

3. It shall be a condition of every licence granted under these rules that the Game Warden, Punjab, shall determine at the beginning of each season:

- (a) the size or weight limited below which no trout may be killed, and
- (b) the maximum number of trout of the size limit prescribed in (a) above which may be caught during the term of the licence.

Note.—Each of the joint holders of a family licence shall be entitled to kill six trout per day.

It shall be a condition of every licence granted under these rules that the licence-holder may fish with rod and line only, using any of the following lures:

- (1) Artificial fly.
- (2) Natural fly.
- (3) Artificial spinning bait, including spoons.
- (4) Natural spinning bait.
- (5) Artificial worm.
- (6) Natural worm.

Provided that in the tributaries of the Beas River, which join it above the intake of Washing Bihal Kuhls near mile 3½ from Kulu, the use of natural worm and artificial worm and other ground bait, *e.g.*, grasshoppers, frogs, etc., for bottom fishing is prohibited. Provided further that the use of natural worm, artificial worm and other ground bait, *e.g.*, grasshoppers, frogs, etc., for bottom fishing is prohibited in Beas River above mile 3½ from Kulu except between the 1st of June and the 15th of September.

All trout taken on worm or other ground bait must be retained regardless of size, but not in excess of the number permitted to be killed on each licence.

(Added by Punjab Government Notification No. 3870, dated 7th September, 1938.)

It shall also be a condition of the licence that the licensee is bound to report to the Sub-Divisional Officer, Kulu, Tehsildar, Kulu, or any officer of the Fisheries Department any breach of the rules that comes to his notice.

4-A. It shall be a condition of the licence that every licensee shall be bound to show his licence to any person empowered under section 6 of the Act to arrest without warrant for offences under the Act, (Notifications Nos. 1851-D. and 1852-D., dated the 9th May, 1925.)

4-B. It shall be a condition of the licence that every licensee, who desires to employ a "Shikari" must employ one of those persons who are registered on the list of "Shikaris" maintained in the office of Game Warden, Punjab. No man, not so registered, may be employed as a "Shikari." The yearly registration fee for a "Shikari" is Re. 1, in exchange for which a badge and a certificate is issued to the "Shikari."

5. No fish of any species shall be killed between the first day of November and the 1st day of March, both days inclusive.

Provided that nothing in these rules shall prevent the catching of any species at any time of the year by employees of the Fisheries Department acting under the authority of the Head of the Department.

6. All apparatus erected or used for fishing in contravention of these rules may be seized and taken to the nearest Police Station by any person empowered under section 6 of the Act to arrest, without warrant, for offences under the Act, and all such apparatus and all fish taken by means of any such apparatus may be forfeited on conviction of the offender under section 5 of the Act.

7. The Sub-Divisional Officer, Kulu, or the Game Warden, Punjab, may cancel a licence, the holder of which has been convicted of a breach of these rules, or under any section of the Indian Fisheries Act, 1897.

The following persons are empowered to arrest without warrant any person committing in their view a breach of any rule made in Part "E" of Punjab Government Notification No. 1848-D., dated the 9th May, 1925, or contravening the provisions of Punjab Government Notification No. 1853-D., dated the 9th May, 1925:

- (i) All the licence-holders authorised to fish under the rules made in Part "E" of Punjab Government Notification No. 1848-D., dated the 9th May, 1925, during the time that their licences are in force.
- (ii) All Magistrates and Justices of the Peace.
- (iii) All Police Officers.
- (iv) All Forest Officers.
- (v) All Officers of the Fisheries Department and all subordinate employees wearing the badge of the Department.
- (vi) All village officers, including Negis, Zaildars, Lambardars and Chaukidars.
- (vii) All persons recognised by the Deputy Commissioner as Fishing Headmen.

## APPENDIX "E"

ABRIDGED RULES FOR "BIG GAME" SHOOTING IN THE  
KANGRA AND KULU DIVISIONS

Big game denotes the following species:

English name	Kangra name	Kulu name
Himalayan Ibex ..	.. <i>Tangrol</i>	.. <i>Katrol</i> , <i>Tangrol</i> (Spiti). <i>Skin</i> (Lahaul).
Tahr ..	.. <i>Kart</i> <i>Mechi</i> (F.)	.. <i>Kart Korth</i> (M.). .. <i>Bakri</i> (F.).
The Great Tibetan Sheep or Nyan ..	..	<i>Nian</i> .
The Blue Wild Sheep or Bharal ..	..	<i>Miatu</i> .
The Himalayan Goat Antelope or Serow ..	.. <i>Goa</i>	.. <i>Yamu</i> . <i>Fmu</i> .
Goral ..	.. <i>Pij</i> <i>Ban Bakri</i> . <i>Ghorrur</i>	.. <i>Ban Bakri</i> . .. <i>Gurrar</i> . .. <i>Ghoral</i> . <i>Ghurral</i> . <i>Guth</i> .
Spotted Deer ..	.. <i>Chittal</i> . <i>Bara Singh</i> . <i>Jhank</i> .	
Hog Deer ..	.. <i>Para</i> .	
Barking Deer or Muntjac ..	.. <i>Kakar</i>	.. <i>Kakar</i> .
Musk Deer ..	.. <i>Kastura</i> <i>Taunsa</i> . <i>Bina</i>	.. <i>Bina, Kastura</i> . .. <i>Raonvi</i> (F.). .. <i>Ranwhin</i> (F.).
Blue Bull or Nilgai ..	.. <i>Nilgai, Bangai, Rauj</i> .	
Brown Bear or Snow Bear ..	.. <i>Brahbo</i> <i>Lagru</i> .	.. <i>Rotta Bhalu</i> . <i>Rata Balu</i> . <i>Bhrd</i> . <i>Brabbu</i> .

The shooting of big game is absolutely prohibited, except under a licence to be granted by the Divisional Forest Officer for which the following licence fees will be charged:

	Rs.	
Kulu ..	(a) 30	(for animals other than brown bear).
	(b) 40	(for one brown bear in addition to other animals).
Lahaul ..	30	
Spiti ..	30	
Bara Bangahal ..	30	
Chota Bangahal ..	30	
Rest of Kangra ..	5	

Except for the Kangra District, these fees include a deposit of Rs. 10 which will be refunded when the licensee returns his licence, duly completed, to the Divisional Forest Officer.

The holder of any of these licences will be permitted to shoot big game in any forest not closed to sport by the Conservator of Forests.

subject to the periods mentioned in Schedule III of the Punjab Wild Birds and Wild Animals Protection Act, 1933, provided that the licensee does not kill (a) more than the numbers of animals specified below or (b) immature specimens or, (c) females other than she-bears or, (d) she-bears with cub or cubs.

(1) Ibex or Tangrol			{ 1 (Kulu and Chota Bangahal. No head to measure less than 30 inches). 2 (Lahaul and Bara Bangahal. No head to measure less than 30 inches). 3 (Spiti. No head to measure less than 30 inches).
(2) Nyan	..	..	1 (Minimum head 38 inches).
(3) Bharal	..	..	{ 2 (Kulu and Lahaul. Minimum head 20 inches). 4 (Spiti. Minimum head 20 inches).
(4) Goral	..	..	4 (No limit).
(5) Tahr or Kart	..	..	2 (Minimum head 10 inches)
(6) Serow			1 (No limit).
(7) Barking deer	..	..	3.
(8) Brown bear			{ 1 (Except in Bara Bangahal where 2 may be shot only when without cub or cubs).
(9) Spotted deer or Chital			{ 1 (No hornless stag or stag with horns in velvet may be shot).

*Close Season*—Nos. 1 to 6: females the whole year.

No. 7: females whole year; males 1st January to 31st March.

No. 8: females with cubs at foot and cubs the whole year; others, 1st July to 30th September.

No. 9: 15th September to 31st December.

The shooting of musk deer, both male and female, is prohibited.

Licences to shoot big game will remain in force for twelve months from 1st January of the year of issue and are not transferable. Every licence must be returned to the office of issue within a fortnight of the date of its expiry or earlier and the licence-holder must endorse upon it the number and kind of big game killed. The Conservator of Forests may (a) in the case of residents of Kulu, other than officials, issue a family licence to cover shooting by all members of the family of the holder residing in his house, and (b) in the case of officers travelling on duty, issue a temporary permit for a period not exceeding 30 days on payment of Rs. 5. The number of animals which may be killed under a family licence is restricted to the number fixed above.

Applications for licences should be sent by registered post to the Divisional Forest Officer, Kulu, or to the Divisional Forest Officer, Kangra Forest Division, according to the locality in which it is proposed to shoot. Applicants for a shooting licence in Kulu should state whether they require an (a) licence or a (b) licence mentioned above.

The Conservator of Forests may, at his discretion, limit the number of licences to be in force at any one time.



*Note.*—Bara Bangahal and Chota Bangahal and all forests lying west of Bangahal are in Kangra Division; Kulu, Lahaul and Spiti are in Kulu Division.

All holders of licences to shoot big game in Kulu and Lahaul must employ a *shikari* registered on the list of *shikaris* maintained in the Divisional Forest Office at Kulu. A copy of this list will be sent to each person with his licence.

Breaches of these rules are punishable under Sections 26 (i) and 33 of Act XVI of 1927.

Nothing in the rules shall prevent the destruction of any brown bear known to be a sheep killer, either in defence of property or life or with the written permission of the Divisional Forest Officer.

A list of forests closed to all sport by the Conservator of Forests shall be published in the official gazette, and a copy attached to all licences issued.

A licence may be cancelled at any time by the officer granting it, or by the Conservator of Forests. Any breach of the Forest Act or of any rule made under the Act, if committed by the holder of the licence or any of his retainers or followers, shall render the licence liable to cancellation. The holder of a licence is not exempted from liability under the Forest Act or any other law for anything done in contravention of such Act or law, or for any damage caused by him, his retainers or followers.

### SMALL GAME

The shooting season for Hill Partridge, Chikor, Woodcock, Common Jungle Fowl, Hill and Snow Pigeon opens on 15th September. For Pheasant, Himalayan Snow Cock, Tibetan Snow Cock and Snow Partridge the season opens on 1st October.

### SHOOTING IN MANDI STATE

The shooting season in Mandi State, for both big and small game, is from 16th September to 14th March, both days inclusive.

Applications for shooting licences should be addressed to the Conservator of Forests, Mandi State. Licence fees are as follows:

			Rs.
For one month or less	..	..	10
For the Season	..	..	15

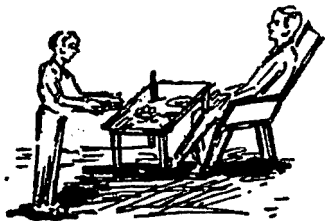
The licence entitles the holder to shoot in all forests except the following reserves:

**Demarcated**—Pali, 4 H; Ahju, 27 H; Marhola, 30 H; Chulinal, 83H; Tarmothi, 99H; Dukashti, 06H; Janitri, 17K; Gandharab, 1K; Kangni, 22 K; Kumi, 41 N; Dohada, 4 N; Towa, 54 N; Bakhli, 104 N; Lamidhar, 18 S; Baluthhach, 24 S; Sarohi, 5 S.

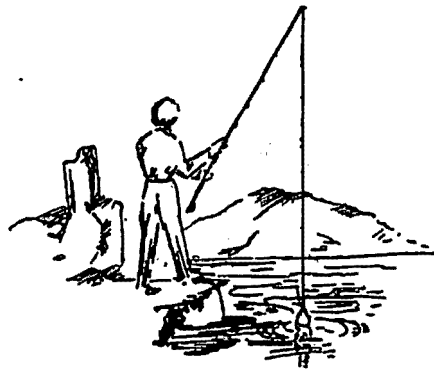
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who may not leave the plains,  
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- TRIBUTARIES
- GLACIERS
- MOTOR ROAD
- BRIDLE PATHS
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